

Motorway is closed off by lorry blockade

Seamen accuse P&O of 'mindless militancy'

By Tim Jones and David Sapped

Lorry drivers at Dover last night voted to continue with their blockades which are creating chaos at channel ports.

The decision came as the National Union of Seamen accused P&O of "mindless militancy" in refusing "point blank" an offer to resume negotiations with the Advisory, Conciliation and Arbitration Service.

Meanwhile the directors of Sealink, meeting in London to discuss contingency plans aimed at resuming their ferry operations, may return to the High Court today if they fail to reach agreement with the union.

The blockade transformed East Kent into a huge parking lot and emergency parking on a six-mile, closed off section of the M20 between Ashford and Folkestone became choked with 600 lorries. In Dover itself, 350 lorries were stuck in the main Eastern Dock and another 40 were in the Western Dock.

The action thwarted the travel plans of thousands of holidaymakers, left thousands

A proposed stock market flotation of Sealink British Ferries has been called off because of the seamen's strike. Sea Containers, the company's owners, confirmed yesterday. The flotation has been put off because the strike will distort the company's profit and loss account.

more stranded on coaches overnight and, because of the huge build-up of lorries, police were considering shutting off the entire eastbound section of the M20.

Action by lorry drivers caused widespread disruption at Calais and Dunkirk and was also spreading to the Belgian port of Ostend, where about 300 lorries from all over Europe are stuck.

The move by the union to re-open talks with P&O came as members of the NUS national ferries committee were divided on whether to accept the olive branch offered to them by Sealink, whose strike have also been made known by the union.

After the offer to go to Acas had been rejected, Mr. Jim Slater, the union's president, said: "We are disappointed in this suggestion. Sir Jeffrey Sterling, the company chairman, must be dead but he will wake up one day."

Acas said later P&O had argued that the purpose would be served by further discussion or negotiations with the NUS either directly or through Acas.

Mr. Sam McCusker, the NUS general secretary, said he fully supported the blockade of Dover and French channel ports by the lorry drivers and welcomed their demand for P&O to return to the negotiating table.

He said the NUS and its 1,100 strikers in Dover were

willing to accept cutbacks on the company's cross-channel services. "But these have to be introduced by consent and not imposed by sackings and other forms of intimidation."

On the eve of today's Commons debate on the dispute, Mr. Michael Meacher attacked the Government for giving a "nod and a wink" to P&O to make changes that would put passenger safety at risk on ferries.

Mr. Meacher, speaking in Blackpool, said: "The assets of the NUS have been taken away from the union but if there was any justice in this country it would be the assets of P&O that were taken away to provide full compensation for the victims of the Herald of Free Enterprise disaster."

After the lorry drivers had voted last night to continue their blockade of Dover, one of their spokesmen, Mr. Norman Willoughby, said they had failed to win guarantees from P&O and Sealink that ferry services would be improved for them.

In London, the Sealink directors, whose offer to employ 450 of the 720 dismissed seamen expired on Monday, refused to give details of a contingency plan they have drawn up if they fail to reach agreement with the union. One option considered by the directors is to return to the High Court to report that the union is still in contempt.

The union's port ferries committee spent most of yesterday trying to persuade small ferry companies to renege up to 200 seamen dismissed as a result of the strike.

Union sources said that if they were successful, they would then consider whether to take up Sealink's offer of temporary jobs, enabling the union to call off its secondary actions, purge its contempt and regain the £2.8 million in assets sequestered.

But the committee is divided on whether to agree to the Sealink terms.

Yesterday, the company changed with sequestering the union's assets. Spicer & Oppenheim & Partners, said they had paid out of union funds the £150,000 fine imposed on the NUS last Tuesday for breaching the injunction obtained by Sealink.

A haven from the pressure



A mentally exhausted Zola Budd, who has turned her back on international athletics, finds comfort cuddling her dog, Fraiser, on the lawn of her sister's Bloomsbury home yesterday.

Zola Budd angry and bitter at being made a 'scapegoat'

By Louise Taylor

A was-faced Zola Budd arrived back on South African soil yesterday and immediately denounced those who she believes have made her a scapegoat for the country's political stance.

"I am angry and bitter that I am seen as a representative of South Africa and its problem," she told reporters on her return. She added: "I suppose the anti-apartheid lobby will exploit this as they have done with other things in the past."

The South African-born athlete has been dogged by controversy ever since she arrived in England four years ago and was granted British nationality. Recently she has been under intense pressure over the question of

whether she had participated in two athletics meetings in South Africa.

Although she did not actually run in the events, the International Amateur Athletics Federation argued that her

presence was tantamount to breaking a sporting boycott of South Africa, and accordingly ordered the British Amateur Athletics Board to enforce a 12-month ban which would have excluded her from competing in the Seoul Olympics.

The British board had been due to hear evidence from Miss Budd in her defence this week.

Meanwhile, after announcing her retirement from sport for a "prolonged period", Miss Budd's long-term future is shrouded in an equal degree of uncertainty. With the benefit of hindsight she admitted yesterday that she should have avoided the South African meetings. But she insisted: "I still claim I am innocent. I didn't do anything wrong. Now I'm going to take a long holiday and after a year I'll decide what I'm going to do. But now I think I deserve a rest to recover and recuperate and decide about my future. I thought the only place to be was with my family."

However, Sonja Laxton, a South African runner, yesterday expressed doubts as to the merits of Miss Budd's decision to return home.

Electricians to defy TUC over no-strike deals

By Roland Rudd

The electricians' union is set to be expelled from the TUC after its executive yesterday voted to break a series of TUC directives.

The executive will ask its 360,000 members to endorse the action in a secret ballot next month.

Mr. Eric Hammond, general secretary of the Electrical, Electronic, Telecommunication and Plumbing Union, predicted that his union would be out of the TUC by the end of the year.

The 14-man executive unanimously voted to break the ruling of the TUC's inter-union disputes committee by refusing to withdraw from two single-union, agreements drawn up to prevent strikes.

In a separate decision the executive voted not to attend the next TUC General Council meeting. The council has voted to ensure the union for its role in News International's move to Wapping, east London.

The EETPU members are expected to vote for a proposal to give the executive a mandate to break TUC rulings.

Mr. Hammond said: "Provided our members vote 'Yes', I cannot see us remaining inside the TUC. But we are not leaving the TUC."

"The first requirement for an organization is self-preservation and it would therefore seem reasonable to make it clear in the EETPU rules that membership of the TUC is not our prime objective."

Mr. Hammond said the accompanying literature in the ballot will emphasize membership of the TUC is the issue.

By appealing to his mem-

bers directly and inviting the TUC to expell his union, Mr. Hammond has avoided making the break himself.

That will help his efforts to win over Britain's second biggest union, the Amalgamated Engineering Union.

The AEU, which is negotiating a merger with the EETPU, may also refuse to allow the TUC to determine which single-union agreements it is allowed to sign.

Mr. Norman Willis, TUC general secretary, said it was in the interests of responsible trade unions to regulate inter-union relationships "which inevitably involves decisions which from time to time individual unions find difficult to accept."

He said: "It cannot be for unions to pick and choose which rules they are prepared to implement." The General Council, which meets later this month, will set in motion disciplinary procedures which are expected to result in the union's suspension at the TUC annual conference in September.

The TUC had ruled that the electricians should immediately withdraw from its deals with Orion Electric, a Japanese video recorder manufacturer in South Wales, and with Christian Salvesen, a distribution company.

Mr. Hammond said: "We cannot break agreements with employers and our members. Throughout our history, union members and employers have trusted our word but these awards require us to break it."

"Maybe that is their intent — to diminish the trust we have built in industry and so render the EETPU ineffective."

Rocard assumes Chirac mantle

From Philip Jacobson, Paris

President Mitterrand, in his first step towards the formation of the new Socialist Government in France, yesterday named M. Michel Rocard, aged 57, as Prime Minister.

The widely anticipated choice of one of the nation's most popular politicians almost certainly ensures the initial backing of the conservative-controlled National Assembly for the programme that M. Mitterrand will present within the next two weeks.

Soon after the announcement, M. Rocard indicated that he would appoint his new Cabinet "as soon as possible" — adding that, although the President had given him a hard job, he would carry out his task with "the concerns of

all the French always in mind". News of M. Rocard's appointment came a few hours after M. Jacques Chirac had tendered his resignation to M. Mitterrand at the Elysee Palace.

M. Rocard, a former Agriculture Minister, is the first Prime Minister in the Fifth Republic to take office with an opposition majority still in the National Assembly. But M. Chirac and all his elected ministers will not be around to make trouble for him, since they can no longer sit there. Elysee insiders predict "some surprises" among the new Cabinet intake — perhaps even a few middle-ground conservative figures in the mould of the respected Defence Minister, M. Andre Giraud.

Ancient warehouse at risk

An important archaeological find in central London is in danger of being destroyed by developers.

The remains of a wooden warehouse found near London Bridge is being hailed as far more significant than even the recently uncovered amphitheatre at Guildhall.

Archaeologists from the Museum of London found the oaken floor and parts of walls of the second century building, possibly a waterfront wine warehouse, in an almost perfect state of preservation.

Clearance contractors are due on the site on Monday to prepare it for development by the London Borough of Southwark. And English Heritage, who have funded the archaeological dig so far, has refused requests for more money to save the warehouse.

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P&O chief 'afraid of backing down'

By Alan Hamilton

Sir Jeffrey Sterling, chairman of P&O, was accused yesterday by his rival ferry-master, Mr. James Sherwood of Sealink, of refusing to back down in his dispute with the National Union of Seamen because he was afraid of losing face with the Government.

Sir Jeffrey is a part-time adviser to Lord Young at the Department of Trade and Industry. Mr. Sherwood, whose company is not in dispute with the NUS but has been seriously disrupted by secondary picketing, appealed yet again for the P&O chairman to return to the negotiating table and resolve the 15-week strike, if only to allow Sealink ferries to resume normal sailings.

Mr. Sherwood, an Anglo-Philippine American who has run his Sea Containers business from London for 25 years and who added Sealink to his empire in 1984, accused Sir Jeffrey of intransigence, and P&O of inexperience in the Channel ferry business.

Continued on page 24, col 2

Prince Henry has operation

By Thomson Practice

Prince Henry, the youngest son of the Prince and Princess of Wales, left hospital with his mother yesterday after undergoing an operation for a minor hernia.

The Prince, aged 3½, is understood to have been born with a groin defect, which occurs in about one in 250 babies.

He was admitted to the Hospital for Sick Children in Great Ormond Street, central London, on Monday.

He spent Monday night there, with his mother sleeping in an adjoining room. The operation was said to be simple and straightforward.

Prince Henry was said to be "well enough in the circumstances" at Kensington Palace last night. The Prince of Wales, on holiday in Italy, was keeping in touch by telephone.

● Buckingham Palace said last night that the Queen was expected back in Britain from her Australian tour this morning.

Spain delays IRA inquest evidence

From Tony Dawe, Gibraltar

The investigation into the deaths of three IRA terrorists shot by the SAS in Gibraltar has been delayed until June 27 because police have not yet been able to gather vital evidence in Spain.

Gibraltar and British authorities, seeking to justify the killings, want evidence of the huge bomb the terrorists were planning to explode on the Rock.

But the 220lbs of explosives and shrapnel were found in a car parked in Málaga in southern Spain and there are no direct links between the two police forces because of tension over the Gibraltar issue.

Spanish police were unwilling to welcome a Gibraltar officer to gather evidence in Spain.

However, the announcement yesterday of the opening date for the inquest indicates that some agreement may have been reached, apparently after high-level talks.

Mr. Eric Thistlethwaite, Gibraltar's Attorney General, told *The Times* yesterday that he has sent to judicial authorities in Madrid a *comission rogatoire*, a legal questionnaire. "I hope the Spanish authorities will handle the request for information."

No bomb was found in the car parked on Gibraltar by the terrorists. Police are convinced that the car was booked a space for that left in Málaga and that the 220lbs bomb was timed to go off during a military parade.

Its victims would have included soldiers and holiday-makers watching the parade, children at a school next to the spot where the car was parked and residents of a nearby old people's home.

The timing of the inquest, to be conducted by Mr. Felix Pizzarello, the Gibraltar coroner, gives the Attorney General more than six weeks to decide whether to bring murder charges against members of the SAS.

'Thatcher's children' reject rebel parents' ideas

By Richard Evans
Media Editor

Britain's youngsters are rejecting rebellion and nonconformity in favour of becoming "model citizens" who can enjoy the material benefits of Thatcherism, it was disclosed yesterday.

Unlike their parents' generation, the teenagers and young adults of today have little time or respect for hedonism, introspection and fighting traditional values. Instead they are more interested in work, family relationships, conformity, money and consumer goods.

The insight into the attitudes,

values, spending habits, and likes and dislikes of Britain's young people is contained in a nationwide survey into youth lifestyles, produced by Mintel, an independent consumer market analyst.

"Thatcher's children, it would seem, have little time for frivolity, far less rebellion," the study concludes. "Free love and communal poverty are out, while a strong work ethos, designer clothes and a status motor car are in."

Young people today would like to see themselves as sensible and responsible, sensitive and caring and intelligent and thoughtful.

The survey covered the 15 to 24 age group whose numbers have increased steadily since 1950 to the present figure of 9.25 million, but will fall between now and the end of the century.

Interviews with 1,138 young adults showed that marriage and children are becoming increasingly irrelevant to those in the early 20s, especially amongst affluent and better educated women who have made a breakthrough into professions such as law, accountancy and medicine.

Music, visual image and style are now integral to the way young people

perceive the world and communicate with others.

The only threat to the conformist nature of the young is a reversal in Britain's economic fortunes. Youngsters would be the first to suffer and disillusionment would be profound and "have far reaching consequences".

"Under these circumstances a resurrection of the generation gap and the collapse of the new conformism would seem a distinct possibility," the survey says.

Youth Lifestyles. Price £550, available from Mintel, Kae House, 7 Arundel Street, London WC2 3DR. Survey details, page 5

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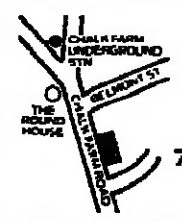
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NEWS ROUNDUP

Gas plant aims for 900 new jobs

A huge expansion of the biggest natural gas liquids plant in Britain is planned by Shell Expro and, if approved, is expected to cost £100 million and create 900 jobs.

The company yesterday lodged planning applications to expand its complex at Mossman in Fife, which was opened in 1984 to process more than two million tonnes of liquefied petroleum gas from the Brent Field. Two years later capacity was increased to 3.6 million tonnes and the plant now handles output from 16 installations in the North Sea.

Shell Expro, however, predicts a fall off in the amount of liquefied petroleum gas from existing fields and needs more capacity to enable it to bid for new business. Mr Malcolm Williams, the plant manager, said: "If we do not get planning permission we will go into a steady and long term decline as the gas runs out."

If permission for the expansion is granted, work is expected to begin next year and continue into 1992. Shell says it would try to recruit as much local labour as possible.

Cotton mills strike

Lancashire yesterday saw the first industry-wide cotton strike for 56 years, when about 12,000 workers took action in a dispute with the British Textile Employers Association over a 5.5 per cent pay offer made by the employers. The action includes an overtime ban, a work-to-rule and a one-day strike each Tuesday.

Fire-proof foam rules

Agreement on a new safety standard for foam-filled furniture has been reached by the Government, industry and fire prevention officers. It stipulates that combustion-modified foam — the only type to be allowed in domestic upholstered furniture from next March — must pose less of a fire risk than the fillings outlawed earlier this year. In particular, it must burn more slowly and give off toxic fumes at a lower rate than the outlawed foams and must melt away from a flame.

£1m cancer screening

The Post Office is spending £1 million on cancer screening for its 35,000 women employees. A mobile unit with consulting rooms and staffed by an all-female medical team is setting out on a two-year tour of Britain offering breast screening for staff over 45 and cervical cancer screening for women over 20. The project is the largest of its kind ever undertaken in the UK. The Post Office hopes that eventually all its women employees will receive free screening tests at least once every two years.

RAF crash verdict

The RAF is to fit improved external lighting to its Tornado jets and make other modifications to help crews assess range to prevent a repeat of an accident in which two of the £17 million aircraft collided over Cambridgeshire in December 1986. "The primary cause of the accident was that the crew of the second aircraft failed to establish a stable position behind and below their leader before moving into close formation," a Ministry of Defence report, which attributed blame to crew error, said yesterday. One of the crews ejected. The other flew its damaged aircraft to its base in Norfolk.

Sir Trevor resigns

Sir Trevor Jones yesterday announced his resignation from the leadership of Liverpool City Council's Social and Liberal Democratic group, having spent nearly 20 years as leader of the Liberals. A critic of the policies of Mr Derek Hatton and the ousted Militants, Sir Trevor first joined the council in 1968. He denied that his decision had anything to do with his party's poor showing in last week's local elections. Sir Trevor, who will continue to represent Alburgh ward on the Labour-controlled council, was knighted for his services to local government and politics in 1981.

Whitehall's 'poor example' on jobs for ethnic minorities

By Richard Ford
Political Correspondent

The Government was accused yesterday of setting a poor example by employing too few people from ethnic minorities in the Civil Service.

A survey of ethnic minorities in Civil Service departments showed that of those who replied only three out of 244 in Grades 1 to 7 were from an ethnic minority in the

Cabinet Office, only 32 out of 3,055 in the Ministry of Defence, and one out of 652 in the Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

In Customs and Excise there were six out of 447, in the Department of Education and Science 10 out of 571 and in the Home Office 51 out of 1,308.

The Rev Martin Smyth, Official Unionist MP for Belfast, South, said the number of ethnic minorities employed in most government

departments was tiny. He said that in lower grades in the Civil Service, ethnic minorities provided a substantial proportion of staff.

Mr Smyth added: "The figures prove that promotion prospects for members of ethnic minorities in the Civil Service are poor or virtually impossible."

In an effort to embarrass the Government shortly before it launches a White Paper containing tough fair employment measures

for Northern Ireland, Mr Smyth said there was a clear need for similar legislation in Britain.

The White Paper is expected to be announced at the end of the month as part of a renewed drive to improve employment practices in the province.

Mr Smyth said the figures showed that the Government was setting an "extremely poor example". He added: "I would be convinced of

their sincerity over fair employment legislation for Northern Ireland if they accepted that such legislation ought also to apply to Great Britain. If one accepts their arguments, there is clearly a need for it."

The measures in Northern Ireland will make it a criminal offence for companies with more than 25 employees not to regularly monitor their workforce to ensure that fair employment practices are being implemented.

Some of the world's most courageous men and women met Queen Elizabeth yesterday at the fifteenth biennial reunion in London of the Victoria Cross and George Cross Association.

Thirty holders of the VC and 48 awarded the GC began their three-day celebration with a remembrance service at St Martin-in-the-Fields in Trafalgar Square.

Lieutenant-Colonel Eric Wilson, from Somerset, who was awarded his VC posthumously and was later discovered to be alive, said: "It is sad that some can no longer be with us but so lovely to meet so many old friends again from all over the world."

Also at the reunion, which continues today with a boat outing on the Thames, was Mrs Odette Hallows, the French resistance worker, as well as VCs from Nepal, Australia, Canada, India and the United States.

Whips hope Thatcher can quell poll tax revolt

By Sheila Gann, Political Staff

Government whips were clinging to the hope last night that Mrs Margaret Thatcher can dissuade her Conservative backbenchers from supporting the growing rebellion against the poll tax proposals in the Lords.

She will speak to the peers next week before the key amendment, tabled by a group of senior Conservatives, comes before the upper House.

If the amendment is approved it will force the Government to take the issue back to the Commons for a further debate and vote.

The talk given to 100 Conservative backbenchers last week by Mr Nicholas Ridley, the Secretary of State for the Environment, is

known to have quashed the fears of a few peers over the effect of replacing rates with a flat-rate poll tax.

Government whips are relying on the personal intervention of the Prime Minister to prevent an embarrassing defeat for the Government. Her annual speech to her peers has been brought forward two months so that it will take place before the crucial vote on May 23, the first day of the detailed committee scrutiny of the Local Government Finance Bill in the Lords.

The amendment drawn up by the "rebels", all Conservatives who fear the party will be damaged unless the community charge takes account of people's ability to pay, will be circulated today.

It will state: "At any time before the coming into force of this Act the Secretary of State shall provide information to the House of Lords on the community charges and liability to contributions to collective community charges shall be related to ability to pay, in respect of those who are, and those who are not, entitled to rebates."

It will appear in the names of Lord Chelwood, Lord Ellenborough, Lady Faithfull and Lord Auckland. Lord Chelwood, formerly Sir Tufton Beamish, said there was a limit of four names otherwise he believed many other Conservatives would have been prepared to back publicly his amendment.

"It is very far-reaching in that it is asking the Government to take back

the Bill and amend it radically," he told *The Times*.

Although Lady Faithfull — sometimes votes against the Government on social issues, all the other peers have loyally and consistently supported the Government over the years. Other Conservatives, notably Lord Carr, Lord Carlisle, Lord Prior and Lord Pym, are expected to vote for the amendment.

The attraction of the amendment is its simplicity and that it does not appear to ask peers to step over their constitutional limits.

The unhappy Conservatives — referred to by some peers as "the Tuffy club" — do not believe it is their task to try to draw up alternatives to the flat-rate, as Mr Michael Mansel attempted to do with his amendment to band the poll tax

which was defeated in the Commons.

They also deny they are actively canvassing for support among their colleagues. Their argument is that they back the 1974 Conservative manifesto pledge, announced by Mrs Thatcher when she was shadow Environment Secretary, committing the Party to replacing rates with taxes taking account of people's ability to pay.

One peer who is not likely to take part in the Lords' debate is Viscount Ridley, the Secretary of State's elder brother, because as Lord Lieutenant of Northumberland he is expected to be non-party political. However he was a member of the Layfield committee which dismissed poll tax as a viable alternative to the rating system.

Ridley unrepentant over developing country sites

By Martin Fletcher, Political Reporter

Mr Nicholas Ridley, Secretary of State for the Environment, last night provoked protest from Conservative backbenchers by insisting there should be further development of greenfield sites in rural southern England.

In an uncompromising speech to the Conservative Bow Group, he accused those who wanted all further development to be concentrated within urban areas of making the city dwellers' life a misery in order to save their own "picturesque view".

While the Government robustly defended the Green Belt, the original concept of giving breathing space to city dwellers had become "a potent tool to protect the interests of those who live in the Green Belt".

There had to be new housing in the rural South-east to cater not for newcomers but for the children of people who already lived there, Mr Ridley said. If the demand was not met it would be the less well-off who would lose out.

In a clear attack on Conservative MPs who have been lobbying him intensively, Mr Ridley said there could be no meeting of minds with those who told him: "Look, we know you are right, but it doesn't make a happy penny worth of difference — we must not have any more development on our patch."

Mr Ridley said: "I cannot and will not say because I have a nice house and a good life that I do not care about anyone else. Those 'anyone else's' are my children, your

children, your neighbours' children... Does not a caring society have to accept some responsibility for others?"

He denied the Government was "weak" on planning applications for the Green Belt. "We have strenuously protected green belt against development and we have more than doubled the area of the country which has now confirmed Green Belt status to 4.5 million acres."

The issue is threatening to split the party.

Mr Jerry Wiggin, MP for Weston-super-Mare and founder of a pressure group of more than 80 backbench Conservative MPs fighting rural development, said Mr Ridley had a battle on his hands. "He is going to have to recognize that the weight of

opinion within his own party does not share his view."

Mr Ken Warren, Conservative MP for Hastings, said the speech was a "devastating attack on the culture and style of people throughout the South-east".

Mr Anthony Steen, Conservative MP for South Hams, said it left backbenchers "absolutely hopping mad". It showed a disregard of any sensible approach to protecting "our already overdeveloped island".

However, Mr Ridley defended robustly the Government's approach to planning and to counter what he said were totally unfair charges. He denied that the Government was overriding local authority planning decisions.

Villagers waiting for the bulldozers

By Boris Johnson

"It's an absolute tragedy", said Mr Malcolm Rankin as he looked through the picture window of his office at the classic rural scene.

A pair of bonneted horses grazed in the paddock, and away to the horizon, without a trace of a house, a road, or an electricity pylon, rolled the green hills of Kent.

Only miles from the centre of London, there is no noise of traffic in the Anglo-Saxon village of Beas. But last night inhabitants were waiting grimly for the news that Mr

Nicholas Ridley, Secretary of State for the Environment, intends to expose Beas and the rest of the Darent Valley to the roar of the developers' bulldozers.

"There will be 17 houses in that field if the plans go through", Mr Rankin said, pointing at the paddock. "The nearest buildings will be only two or three feet from my window. The rest of the hills will be solid with houses, banks and shops."

Most of the houses in Beas were built in the 1890s, and property developers have had to wait almost a century before

moving. But now it seems there is little the inhabitants can do to save their countryside.

Mr Rankin said: "We held a residents' meeting in the social club last night to discuss the so-called 'community enhancement scheme'. We are determined to fight the plans, but I have given up writing to the council."

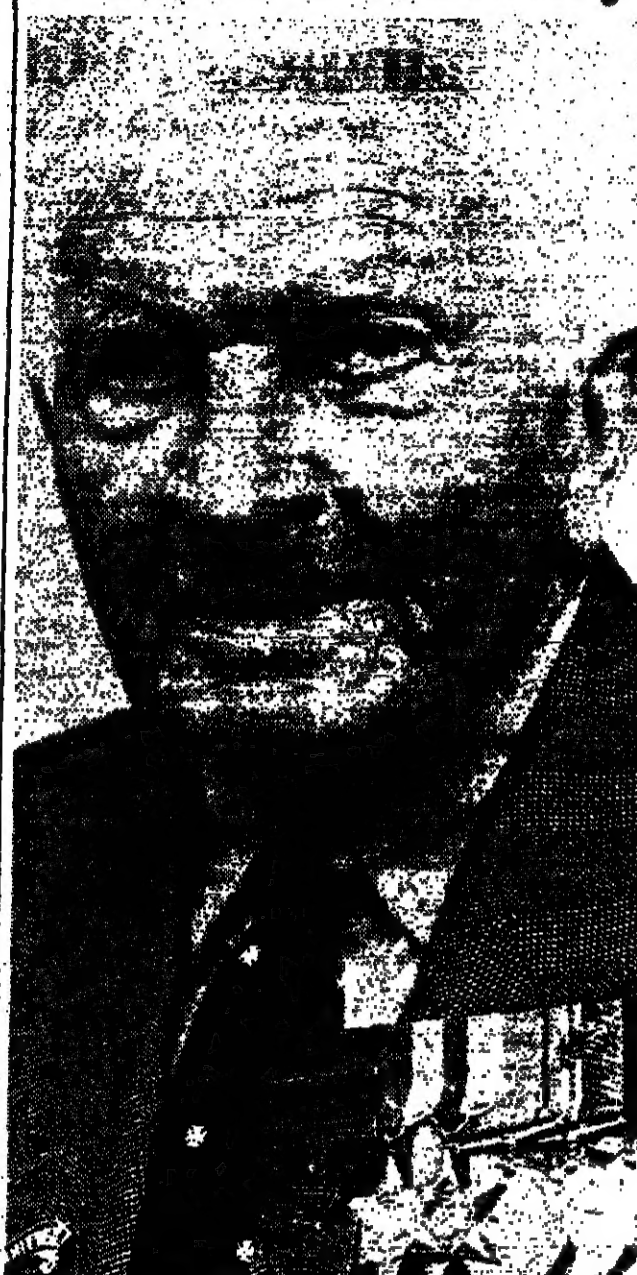
Under the three proposals submitted by Wards, the developers, to the Department of the Environment, Beas can expect to be swamped by 400, 800 or 1,215 houses once the new A2 bypass is built, and as

Dartford Council has been enthusiastic, Mr Rankin says the villagers' last remaining hope has been that Green Belt restrictions will not be lifted.

Ten miles up the road the village of Meopham faces a similar upheaval. Mrs Mary Feltham, a resident there, looked at a 20-acre field which may take 500 houses and said: "All this is part of one of the last islands of countryside in the area."

"We moved here 20 years ago to escape another development, and to keep our horses. I shall definitely leave if it goes."

United in bravery



Captain Charles Upham, the only living holder of the VC and bar, at the reunion yesterday (Photograph: Harry Kerr).

By Ruth Gledhill

Some of the world's most courageous men and women met Queen Elizabeth yesterday at the fifteenth biennial reunion in London of the Victoria Cross and George Cross Association.

Thirty holders of the VC and 48 awarded the GC began their three-day celebration with a remembrance service at St Martin-in-the-Fields in Trafalgar Square.

Lieutenant-Colonel Eric

Wilson, from Somerset, who was awarded his VC posthumously and was later discovered to be alive, said: "It is sad that some can no longer be with us but so lovely to meet so many old friends again from all over the world."

Also at the reunion, which continues today with a boat outing on the Thames, was Mrs Odette Hallows, the French resistance worker, as well as VCs from Nepal, Australia, Canada, India and the United States.

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Prison security 'put at risk'

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

Security is at risk in Britain's newest jail, built to hold terrorists and other dangerous prisoners, according to its board of visitors.

But the Prison Department said yesterday: "We reject any suggestion that it is unsafe." The board, which acts as an independent watchdog, has drawn up a list of 18 faults at the prison at Full Sutton, near York, officially opened by Mr Douglas Hurd, Home Secretary, last month.

It criticizes a number of design faults, the most serious involving computerized alarm systems which are said to set

off false warnings which block genuine alarms in other parts of the prison.

The board criticizes designers for wasting public money on following "an already discredited design path".

It says there is a "vast over-provision" of sports field space, particularly in view of the escape from Gartree Prison, Leicestershire, when a helicopter landed on the prison's sports field.

The board criticizes aspects of the medical wing and highlights the lack of a search

area and a visitors' waiting area at the prison.

The chairman of the board of visitors, Mrs Lindsay Addyman, says the faults show up a lack of consultation with staff.

The jail, completed last year, will eventually hold 600 prisoners. About 250 have arrived, but Mr Barry Smith, the governor, says they are mostly low-risk category, while teaching problems are being sorted out.

"There have been problems but they have all been identified and most of them have been put right", he said.

Private sector backs building plan

The Government's drive to reduce overcrowding in jails has been boosted by more than 30 companies and consortia which have signalled their willingness to join a private-sector prison building programme.

In response to a Home Office invitation, they have submitted outline proposals for urban remand centres and open prisons, to be built in

addition to the existing programme of 26 new jails.

The difference between the involvement of private companies in the past and the new scheme is that developers can submit a complete package, with the accent on flexibility, and be involved from the planning stage.

The Prison Department letter inviting applications said:

"The Home Office is particularly interested in the early availability of the new accommodation."

It said that a capacity for early completion would count in the applicants' favour and no viable method of providing the accommodation would be excluded from consideration.

Hospitals and schools are obvious candidates for conversion into open prisons.

£30,000 silver goes missing at V&A

By Andrew Morgan

A valuable collection of English silver has disappeared from the Victoria and Albert Museum, it was confirmed last night.

The 68 pieces, worth about £30,000, including candlesticks and cups, were missed during a routine stocktaking about three weeks ago. It is believed that they disappeared about a week earlier.

The museum admitted yesterday that it was unsure if the items had been stolen or misplaced.

Police were called, but officials did not announce the disappearance immediately in the hope that a thief might try to dispose of the silver thinking the disappearance had not been noticed.

"We immediately contacted the art world but, after the publicity, any thief will probably be low now", Mr Graham Wiffen, for the museum, said.

The pieces, described as second-grade and including several forks, were being considered for loan to a regional museum. The disappearance will be further embarrassment for Elizabeth Esteve-Coll, the director who took over from Sir Roy Strong in January.

Last March, the Auditor General highlighted poor stocktaking at the V&A and claimed that thousands of items were being kept in dirty and damp conditions.

Last night, Mr Wiffen said: "If these items had been dormant, then we might have been open to criticism, but these pieces were checked often."

"They were on computer, but this is a nineteenth century institution coming to terms with the twentieth century and inadequate resources. Our curators know a great deal about the scope of their collections, but we know there is room for improvement."

However, it is fair to say that if the loss had been noticed more quickly, there would have been less time for a thief to get away — if they have actually been stolen."

It is the second loss at the museum in a matter of months. Just before Christmas, a statue of a Korean envoy from the Ming period, valued at £20,000, was dropped while being displayed with a similar statue.

Writing in *The Times* yesterday, the *Financial Times* said: "The V&A is a museum of the past, but it is a museum of the future. It is a museum of the future, but it is a museum of the past."

Judge halts football fans' trial as police files are discredited

By Stewart Tandler, Crime Reporter

Scotland Yard last night announced a wide-ranging internal investigation after the trial of an alleged gang of football hooligans collapsed with the prosecution counsel saying he no longer trusted the police evidence.

The decision to halt the trial, which had run for 14 weeks at an estimated cost of £2 million and which was due to end in June, was made after evidence emerged that records of surveillance operations could have been fabricated.

Prosecution counsel had the books checked by a handwriting expert and the Crown then decided to offer no further evidence. The judge directed the jury to find all 11 defendants not guilty.

They were alleged to be members of the notorious gang of hooligans known as the "Inter-City Firm" linked to West Ham United football club in east London.

Judge Hinchings told the jury at Southwark Crown Court, east London to return verdicts of not guilty on charges of conspiracy to make an affray between 1980 and 1986.

Fifty to sixty officers were involved in raids on homes in January 1987 which led to the trial. The Scotland Yard inquiry will concentrate on a group of fewer than six officers based near West Ham United's Upton Park ground.

A senior officer from the Yard's Complaints Investigation Bureau will head the inquiry under the supervision of the Police Complaints Authority.

As the case collapsed the defendants cheered and shook hands with Judge Hinchings.

They had been arrested after

a police investigation code-named Operation Full-Time used officers posing as fans to infiltrate the alleged gang. Some of the men were held in custody for more than a year before the trial.

Their release came after Mr Vivian Robinson, QC, for the prosecution, told the court that material had been put before the Crown on Tuesday and discussions had been held at a high level with police and the Crown Prosecution Service.

He told the court: "The Crown considers it proper to offer no further evidence. I no longer have confidence in the integrity of the evidence that has been called. New material has been received which bears upon the integrity of the logs (the records kept by police of their operation)."

"I am instructed to offer no further evidence against these defendants. In due course there will be a full inquiry into the matter."

Judge Hinchings said: "It has been quite clear from the outset that an issue has always been, and remains, the integrity of the officers and their logs in respect of these matters. It has been made quite clear by the defence throughout that these documents were not safe and satisfactory to rely on."

During the trial the jury was told that the alleged gang left calling cards with victims bearing the words "You have just met the Inter-City Firm from West Ham". The gang was alleged to have struck at football matches for six years until police acted.

Officers claimed that when they raided the men's homes

they found a variety of weapons including ball bearings, a machete, a spring loaded truncheon, workmen's knives and a weighted scarf.

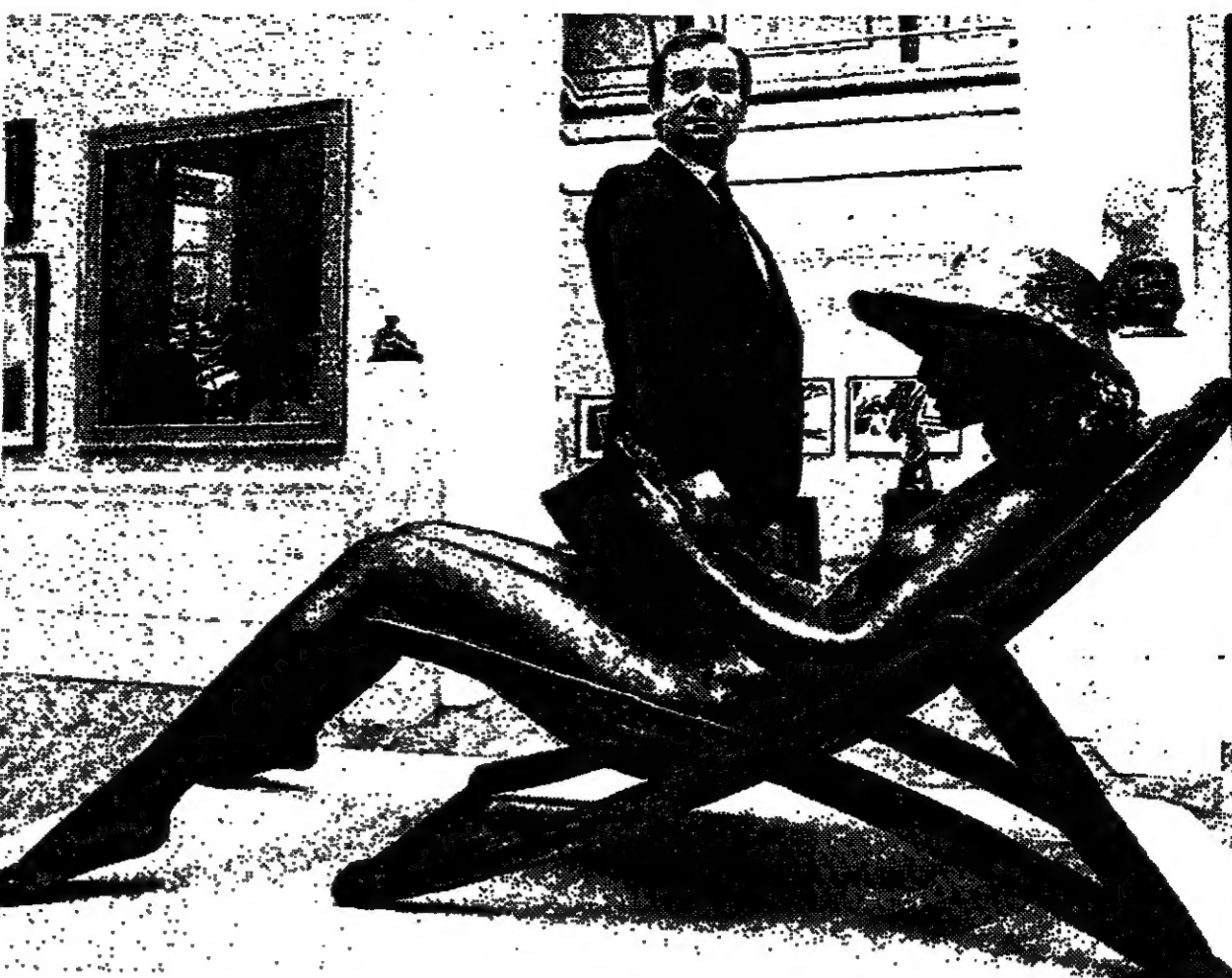
The defendants were: Edward Bagby, 38, an electrical repairman of Rockwell Road, Dagenham, east London; Harvey Collins, 23, an engineer, of Selsing Cross, Harlow, Essex; Danny Daly, 26, unemployed, of Levee Walk, Bow, east London; Peter Dickey, 22, a warehouseman of Jocelyns, Old Harlow, Essex; Paul Dorsett, 30, a cooked meat wholesaler, of Kildare Road, North Woolwich, east London; William Gardner, 32, a builder, of Reeve Road, Reigate, Surrey; Derek Legg, 24, a vinyling of Fullers Mead, Harlow; Cass Pennant, 30, a nightclub manager, of Amburst Road, Hackney, east London; Kevin Shroder, 27, a window cleaner, of Holgate, Basildon, Essex; Martin Surges, 24, a driver, of Jocelyns, Old Harlow; and Andrew Swallow, 28, a market trader, of Tesol Way, West Ham, east London.

Mr Gardner claimed after the case: "The police framed up innocent people and it has been proven in court today."

Mr Dickey said: "We had a suspicion they were going to drop it. We thought the police logs were dodgy and we had a handwriting expert. We knew all along the police were lying."

Five charges are outstanding against Mr Paul Dorsett, including two counts of possessing firearms, two of handling stolen goods, and one of possessing ammunition.

Archer chooses bronze nude



Mr Jeffrey Archer with a bronze sunbather which he bought at the Summer Exhibition (Photograph: Harry Kerr).

By Ruth Gledhill

Two works by Lady Sarah Armstrong-Jones are among the 1,261 works chosen for the Royal Academy Summer Exhibition. The water-colour and charcoal works, which are not for sale, stand a few doors away from John Ward's full-length portrait of the Princess Royal.

A sculpture of Arthur Scargill, the miners' leader, a portrait of Mr Norman Parkinson, the royal photographer, a large oil painting of a rhinoceros and the occasional huge abstract are pointers to the variety of subjects represented in the largest open art exhibition in the world.

An early visitor was Mr Jeffrey Archer, the novelist, who bought a bronze sculpture of a nude figure reclining in a deck chair by Sydney Harpley, priced at

£14,375. Mr Archer, who has seven Harpley works and paid £150 for the first one, intends to display the statue in his garden.

Prices for works at the exhibition in Piccadilly, central London, which opens at 10am today, start at £150.

Mr Roger de Grey, President of the Academy, said: "I admire very much the paintings of Norman Parkinson and Princess Anne by John Ward. I think he is bringing back the sort of glamour that we saw in the eighteenth century. He has recreated Princess Anne as the beautiful, dream princess and has added to her beauty by the way he uses ornament."

Lord Goodman, chairman of the Association for Business Sponsorship for Art, yesterday criticized the Government

for its "pitifully inadequate" financial support of the arts.

The former chairman of the Arts Council said on the BBC Today programme that the Government had made enormous reductions in taxation and that a small trifle of that sum would be able to place the arts on velvet.

Mr Richard Luce, Minister for the Arts, had achieved an unexpected increase in the allocation of funds last year but "this was really so pitifully inadequate and the sum required so pitifully more, that one feels a considerable indignation that you cannot drive it home to the people who really matter."

Lord Goodman said the Government "cannot realize the vital priority that the arts ought to have if we are to have a civilized community."

Portfolio PLUS NEW Accumulator Winner to visit Berlin

The sole winner of the daily Portfolio competition prize of £4,000 is Mr Ken Howard, clerk, of Eaton Street, Keighley, West Yorkshire. Mr Howard, who is married with two grown up children, plans to spend some of the money on a trip to Berlin to visit relatives and friends with his wife, Margaret.

Railway bridge collapses

By David Cross

A 60 ft steel and brick railway bridge across a flooded drainage ditch near Wraybury, Berkshire, collapsed yesterday after an empty passenger train had just crossed it.

British Rail said the final set of wheels on the last carriage of the train returning from Windsor to the Staines depot had come off the tracks and the driver and guard had been badly shaken but otherwise unharmed. The train had been able to make its way slowly towards Wraybury station.

British Rail said the bridge, built in 1848 and reconstructed in 1908, had collapsed because of heavy rain, including three and a half inches that fell on Monday.

"Our main fear at the moment is that the force of the water may wash away part of the remaining embankment", Lord Goodman said. "Railway and river inspectors are considering diverting the path away from the River Colne 50 ft away from the bridge."

There will be an inquiry and the bridge is expected to remain closed. It could be months before services are back to normal. A temporary crossing is expected to be built, so that trains will be able to run on the busy commuter line.

Passengers travelling to and from Windsor were advised to use the service into Paddington while the Waterloo service will run from Wraybury. Commuters who use the two stations between Windsor and the bridge - Datchet and Sunnymede - were advised to travel by bus to catch connecting trains.

Last October a bridge over the river at Giarhyd near Llandello, Dyfed, plunged into the water after heavy rain, killing four people on board.

Protest over failure of case

The police have protested to the Crown Prosecution Service after the case against two men who allegedly attacked an officer was dismissed.

Police Constable Andrew Child, aged 31, nearly died after suffering a pulmonary embolism caused by being repeatedly kicked in the legs.

The case against them was dismissed halfway through the trial at Inner London Crown Court as the prosecution based its case on each attacker acting separately instead of together.

Judge Hyam said the prosecution's case had been "badly damaged".

He ordered the jury to return not guilty verdicts against Mr Jason Spooner, aged 20, a gardener, of Flaxton Road, Plumstead, south-east London, and Mr Maurice Goldsmith, aged 45, a postman, of Swingate Lane, Plumstead.

They had denied assaulting PC Child with intent to resist the arrest of their friend who had refused a breath test.

The court was told how PC Child and PC Martin Bagshaw, aged 27, had stopped a car driven by George Pope. Pope, aged 42, refused a breath test and as the two

officers tried to arrest him he broke PC Bagshaw's jaw.

PC Bagshaw said he could not see who was attacking PC Child.

The officer has been unable to return to his normal duties and has been posted to a desk job since the attack.

Supt Robert Glean said that police had made "a very strong complaint" to the Crown Prosecution Service over its handling of the case.

Pope, a scaffolder, was jailed for 12 months yesterday after he admitted maliciously wounding the officers.

Storms uncover source of new drugs

By Pearce Wright, Science Editor

Trees blown down during storms last October could become the source of a potential new family of medicines and natural pesticides in the drive to obtain "drugs from bugs".

Details of how the storm havoc is being exploited by a group of micro-biologists was disclosed yesterday at the exhibition and conference on advances in research in biotechnology, in London.

The uprooting of old trees uncovered areas of soil that had not been exposed for hundreds of years.

By chance, the storms came a few months after a research group known as Xenova had been established to open a new approach to pharmaceutical research. Instead of synthesizing thousands of molecules in the laboratory each year, in the hope that one of them would result in a useful drug, the new team of microbiologists are screening the natural substances produced by micro-organisms.

Scientists are now screening more than one thousand such organisms a week after scouring the Home Counties for microbes which live in the soil, but the most promising bacteria and fungi have come from soil taken from the roots of trees from Burnham Beeches in Buckinghamshire.

Mr Clive Crooks, a chemist and managing director of Xenova, said that traditional means of discovering and developing new drugs had declined over the past 30 years. Fewer than 20 new approved drugs would come to the market this year.

Research costs had risen dramatically. Companies which spent £15 million in 1970 would now have to spend more than £300 million.

Mr Crooks said there were more than 100,000 known species of micro-organisms, and every year many more were being discovered from soil samples. Yet only a few had been exploited as sources of "microbial metabolites" from which drugs might be developed.

The screening systems used by Xenova are designed to isolate microbes which produce substances that could be useful in dealing with illnesses such as rheumatoid arthritis, some types of cancer,

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Countess's £1½m divorce case delayed

By Kerry Gill

The wife of a peer fighting for a £500,000 divorce settlement had her case adjourned at the Court of Session in Edinburgh yesterday.

Lady Cassilis claims the Earl of Cassilis is heir to his father's £25 million fortune but he says he will inherit a title only and that his income is limited to £1,000 a month.

Lady Cassilis, aged 28, was suing her estranged husband, aged 31, heir to the seventh Marquess of Ailsa, for divorce on the grounds of the irretrievable breakdown of their nine-year marriage.

Lady Cassilis was also seeking permanent custody of

their two daughters, Lady Rosemary, aged eight, and Lady Alicia, aged six.

This part of the action was not defended by the earl, who did not appear at the hearing.

Her lawyer, Mr Len Murray, told her after the hearing that her decree for divorce would not be complete until after another hearing on July 1 at the same court.

At the forthcoming hearing, her claim for a £500,000 capital sum settlement from the earl, and maintenance for the two daughters, will be heard, as will the question of custody and access.

After the hearing, she said: "It was a damp squib today. I

was not 100 per cent certain whether I was divorced or not, but the judge has indicated that he is satisfied and will grant the decree after the hearing on July 1."

Lady Cassilis, of Kennedy Road, Troon, Ayrshire, has interim custody of the children and the earl, who works in London, has access.

Over the past five years the earl and his wife have fought a series of bitter legal battles mainly over interim custody, access and maintenance. Lady Cassilis is receiving legal aid.

The story of the impending break-up of the marriage first

attracted the attention of the popular press early in 1983.

In March last year a judge warned Lady Cassilis that unless she allowed her husband access to their two daughters, the court would compel her to do so.

Lord McCloskey said then: "If access arrangements do not work in future, then the court will have to take very extraordinary steps to make them work."

In 1985, she dropped a demand for a £1 million settlement when the earl abandoned his divorce case.

Instead, she was granted custody of the children plus £10-a-week maintenance for each of her daughters.

New telephone service for legal information

By Rosemary Unsworth, Retail Affairs Correspondent

The Law Society has helped to set up a legal information telephone service which covers topics ranging from divorce and separation, arguments with the neighbours and what to do if you are not happy with your solicitor.

The Lawline service, which costs 35p a minute during peak time (8am to 6pm) and 22p a minute during cheap rate (6pm to 3pm), has 115 categories of pre-recorded legal, domestic and consumer information which callers can listen to 24 hours a day. Each topic lasts an average of five minutes.

The service is operated by Air Call Medical Services which has run telephone answering systems for doctors

and a home visiting service with the British Medical Association since 1966.

Air Call also runs similar information services dealing with health, pet care and gardening.

Air Call receives half of Lawline's telephone charges to the customer with British Telecom taking the rest.

The Law Society believes the service will enable consumers to be better informed about their rights before they consult a professional. The society emphasizes that advice should still be sought from a solicitor.

Free copies of the Lawline directory are available by telephoning 0898 600 600.

Surgeons fight to save foot of lawnmower boy

A boy aged five underwent 13 hours of micro-surgery yesterday after losing much of his left foot in a lawnmower driven by his father.

Matthew Perring is in Derriford Hospital, Plymouth, but it will be two days before doctors know if the operation in which tiny stitches are made with the help of a microscope, has saved his foot.

The accident happened on Monday night at Matthew's home at Parkhill, Ipplepen, near Newton Abbot, Devon. His parents, Clifford and Helen Perring, were at his bedside yesterday after the all-night operation.

Matthew's sister Paula, aged 17, said that her brother was running around the garden as

their father was driving a lawnmower.

She said that as her father told Matthew to stop running her brother slipped and his foot went under the lawnmower where all the toes from his left foot were severed.

She said: "Matthew was very brave and very good. He didn't scream or cry or make too much fuss. Obviously dad was very upset."

Mr Philip Sanders, assistant general manager at Derriford Hospital, said the team of doctors who carried out the "very slow, very painstaking" operation was led by Mr David Hanley, a consultant surgeon.

Matthew's condition is described as comfortable.

Anger at EEC curb on apple imports

By John Young, Agriculture Correspondent

Traders and consumer groups are to protest to the Government about an EEC decision to impose import quotas on apples from outside the Community.

Between now and the start of the home-grown season in the autumn Britain would normally expect to import thousands of tons of apples from the southern hemisphere and from North America.

The new quotas will have a drastic effect on the trade, and will mean that many shops will soon run out of favourite types such as Coxes and Granny Smiths. Prices will rise. Importers, wholesalers and retailers are angry, and Mr John MacGregor, Minister of

Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, is said to be furious at the lack of consultation by the EEC. Representatives of the fruit trade and of consumer groups will meet him this week.

The quotas were imposed because France and Italy have large quantities of last year's crop in store.

This year, imports into the European Community from South Africa will be restricted to 166,000 tonnes, from Chile 142,000, New Zealand 115,000, Argentina 70,000, Australia 11,000 and others, including the United States and Canada, 17,500 tonnes.

Chile, Canada and the United States

have already reached the allotted limit, and shipments have had to be sent back. The US Government is considering legal action on the basis that the quotas infringe international agreements and breach long-term contracts.

Mr Sidney Garber, of the National Federation of Fruit and Potato Traders, said last night: "In effect, the EEC is dictating to the British consumer what type of apples he or she can buy. Although this action is intended to protect apple growers in the EEC, it will actually create chaos in the trade as many producing countries are committed to supplying UK retailers and it will limit the choice for the consumer."

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If you'd like to experience the sting of the Citroën BX Turbo Diesel first hand contact your nearest dealer. You'll find him by telephoning (free of charge) 0800-282671.



Britain's sweet smelling youth craves identity

By Rosemary Unsworth
Retail Affairs Correspondent

Britain's young people can tell the difference between Pepsi and Coke, and they spend heavily on casual entertainment but less than their parents on eating outside the home.

They consume less sweet food but more crisps and wash their hair more often than their elders, according to findings in Mintel's survey of young people as consumers.

More than half (58 per cent) of 15-24 year-olds who were asked one of life's burning questions - whether they could tell the difference between Coca-Cola and Pepsi - said they could. Less than half the adults questioned (42 per cent) could spot the difference, while 32 per cent of older people, compared with 10 per cent of younger people, did not know.

This ability to distinguish between products and brand awareness differentiates young people from their elders, according to Mintel, the independent consumer and market research group. Young people are avid and sophisticated

consumers, concerned with value for money, but they also show differences in spending habits within their own age group because of varied financial responsibilities.

Young adults are important to the toiletries and cosmetics market, and those who travel in the Underground pressed nose to grumpy will not be surprised that 83 per cent of youths, compared with 67 per cent of men, use deodorants and antiperspirants. Hair spray usage is also high among teenagers, as liberal applications are essential to maintain sculpted hair styles.

Those in their twenties, who are less likely to suffer from greasy hair, wash their hair less often than their juniors, 89 per cent of whom use shampoo at least twice a week. That is markedly more frequently than the rest of the population.

The impact of the Aids public information campaign and television advertising of condoms - the second most popular choice of contraception for young people - has increased condom sales possibly by as much as 20 per cent; 34 per cent use them, seeing them as protection against sexually transmitted diseases.

Spending priorities of young adults

	All	15-19	20-24
Clothes	63	68	58
Records/tapes/music	36	40	32
Going out/dining	26	25	27
Cosmetics/hair care	16	15	17
Holiday/special buys	14	14	13
Books	8	5	12
Hobbies (exc sport)	8	8	8
Vehicle accessories	7	4	10

Source: SHIRAZ/Mintel

The most popular contraception choice is the pill, used by 40 per cent of young people. However, 10 per cent of this group surveyed by *Looks* magazine, and quoted by Mintel, use no contraception at all.

Marks & Spencer remains the most popular source of underwear for British women despite the popularity of new retail chains such as Next. Teenagers have always spent greater than average amounts on clothing compared with their elders, but women in their early twenties, not at the peak of earning power but with financial

responsibilities, spend well under the national average of £200 annually.

Half the women in that age group questioned said they had spent less than £150 on clothes in the preceding year. Doc Marten-type shoes are finally losing their appeal and giving way to high heels worn with short skirts which will depress the sale of ankle socks, according to the survey.

Clothes, records and tapes followed by entertainment, cosmetics and hair products remain the most popular items upon which young people would spend a £20 windfall, with 79 per cent of girls compared with 40 per cent of boys choosing clothes first. Young men are more likely to spend the money on going out drinking or on sport.

As young women increasingly enter the professions and become more ambitious and better qualified, their earnings should catch up with those of their male counterparts. They are also less likely than their predecessors to have career options curtailed at an early age by child rearing.

Young people's earning patterns vary considerably, with some earning substantial amounts and others lagging well behind

average. The youngest working teenagers earn 40 per cent of the sum earned by the whole of the male working population, average gross weekly earnings ranging from £181 a week for manual workers to £262 for non manual. Young manual women workers receive £113 while non-manual earn £154 a week.

Young people watch less television and spend more time listening to music - which has a great impact on their lives - than the rest of the population, although both activities are important parts of their leisure.

After watching television and listening to music, almost half the young adults claimed that sport or exercise was their next favourite activity, followed by going out although they do not go to public houses or eat out so much as their elders.

Least favoured alternatives were using a home computer or car maintenance and 29 per cent opted for reading.

Although the young want to be part of an identifiable crowd, they do not want to look like everyone else and manufacturers and advertisers should not assume that they have broadly similar attitudes and tastes.

Women to benefit as equality gap closes

THE FUTURE

Britain's decision makers and professionals will include growing numbers of women as the trend towards greater equality of the sexes accelerates in the remaining years of this century.

But the closing of the gap between the sexes, combined with a greater emphasis on achievement among young women, will not conflict with the appeal of glamour or romance.

The survey predicts that the arrival of Aids and the new celibacy "will herald not the death of romance, but a return to the pleasures of flirtation and old fashioned courtship".

Unlike their parents' generation, which tended to rebel, the young of today and tomorrow are more conformist.

In spite of the widening gap between the haves and have nots in recent years, there is little sign of a major upheaval on the horizon, such as occurred with the punk movement in the 1970s.

Sustained economic growth in recent years has played a large part in underpinning the new consumption and success ethic, and the aspirations of the young unemployed are much the same as those of their employed counterparts.

A lack of effective opposition to the Thatcher government tended to consolidate the shift in attitudes and values among the young and the larger population.

Young admire Thatcher faith in work ethic

By Richard Evans
Media Editor

The first generation of young adults brought up under Thatcherism share the Prime Minister's faith in family values, conformity and the work ethic - and want to be seen as model citizens.

In sharp contrast with the attitudes and priorities of their parents who "ran wild" in the 1960s, today's teenagers and young adults have little time for hedonism, rebellion or introspection.

The survey says: "Successful generations of young people have, to a greater or lesser extent, rebelled against and revised the values of their parents. It would seem though, that the historical identification of youth with rebellion has run its course, for the time being at least."

"Young adults today are largely conformers and many are less liberal in their attitudes than their immediate elders."

In spite of the long-running popularity of 1950s and 1960s styles, films and music and the cult status of archetypal rebels such as Dean and Brando, they are admired for their image, not for the reality of their lives: far less as rebels or mould breakers.

The survey says: "Young adults today are articulate, determined, appear to know exactly what they want and where they are going, value their relationships with their families and aspire to take their places in the adult world of responsibility and consumption: a far cry from the confused, misunderstood, alienated rebel without a cause or the vulnerable, utterly manipulated sexuality of Monroe."

For the first time in decades the generation gap is far less of a divide and family life occupies a central position in the values of the young.

Although young people are

ATTITUDES

well aware of the importance of money, they do not allow that to overshadow the central place occupied by human relationships, whether it be with the family, the opposite sex or their elders. Both sexes felt that their relationships with their immediate families mattered far more to them than any other suggested item.

But the real insight into the way youngsters now think emerged when they were asked how they would like to be described. Answers showed that the young aspire to the virtues of the model citizen: thoroughly well-balanced, sensitive and thinking.

"Thatcher's children, it would seem, have little time for 'frivolity, far less rebellion', the survey says."

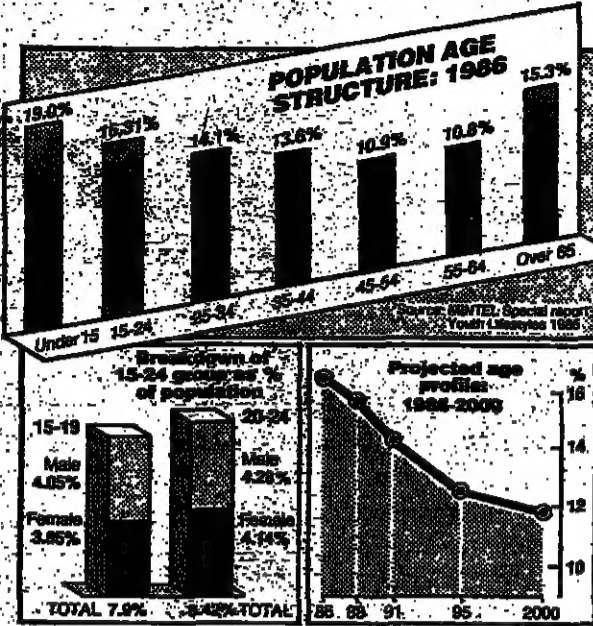
When it comes to sex, a substantial minority of young adults feel their elders tend to believe that young people are more interested in sex than they in fact are. Aids experts say it is not regarded by young adults as either a problem or a moral issue.

Young adults feel that the available sexual information and education is inadequate.

The extent of sexual activity among the young is unclear because the survey has relied on questions about the sexual behaviour of friends of young people.

But if the replies are a true reflection, sexual activity and promiscuous behaviour are much more widespread than would be imagined from answers to direct questions about sexual behaviour.

Two thirds of 16 to 17-year-olds were prepared to say their friends had sex with a regular partner. One in five claimed their friends had sex with people they did not know very well and 14 per cent admitted their friends were promiscuous.



Boom group is past its peak

After three decades of growth, the proportion of young adults in the United Kingdom has peaked and is expected to decline rapidly by the end of the century.

There were 9,263,000 people aged 15 to 24 in 1986, 51 per cent of whom were female. The total was 16.3 per cent of the population, the largest share for any 10-year age group.

That proportion is slightly below the peak population share of 16.4 per cent in 1985. The decline is expected to accelerate to 14.2 per cent by 1991 and 11.9 per cent by the year 2000. After that the proportion of youngsters will again increase gradually.

Apart from the decrease in

POPULATION

the number of young consumers, the youth of the late 1980s are remaining single for longer than past generations.

The average marrying age for women increased from 22.5 in 1966 to 24.1 in 1986 and from 24.9 to 26.3 for men. Among the more affluent and educated marriage is put off even longer. The average age for women in that group to marry is 28.

Women are also having children later, and fewer of them. They are compressing their child-rearing years to fit in with their working lives.

In 1986, more than a quarter of abortions were on

women under 20, compared with just over a fifth in 1971.

The collectivism of the 1960s has been replaced by individualism among today's young adults, posing problems for advertisers.

"It is not an amorphous group with broadly similar tastes and values. There is no parallel today with the 1960s when all young adults were, broadly speaking, part of a mass event", the survey says.

There is a "profound distaste" for being labelled. The financially strong youth market is one of the most difficult for advertising and marketing executives to target, not least because young people are as knowledgeable about advertising as they are conscious about image.

Male domination begins to collapse

By Sarah Thompson, Education Reporter

In 1980 the women members of the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists could almost have been counted on a baby's toes; now they make up more than a third of the college's membership.

That is typical of the way young women have begun a successful invasion of even the most embattled male-dominated professions in the past eight years, a trend which Mintel forecasts will have "profound implications for the future".

Between 1970 and 1985 the number of women entering higher education nearly doubled and now the professions are seeing the result in big increases in their women members, for example in law, banking, medicine, hotel and catering, and personnel management.

More schoolgirls are taking examinations in what have been traditionally seen as boys' subjects. Some 15 years ago the proportion of girls among A-level mathematics candidates was less than 20 per cent; half as many girls again now take this subject.

PROFESSIONS

Girls taking physics and chemistry have quadrupled and doubled respectively.

Young people nowadays are better qualified and spend longer in education or training than any previous generation. One in five school leavers had no examination qualifications in 1975, and only one in 10 in 1986.

This trend, Mintel predicts, will speed up with the arrival of GCSE and AS levels.

The number of 16 year olds in employment has fallen significantly in 10 years from more than 50% in 1976 to only 15% in 1986. At the same time, the proportion of 16 year olds in further education or training has risen from 40% to 72%.

The spectre of unemployment is a "very real worry for young adults", says Mintel. In spite of an increase in the proportion of 16-19 year olds in employment, men of this age are less likely to be employed than other men under 60.

THE HITACHI SPRING COLLECTION

Sophistication is definitely the watchword for Hitachi's dazzling collection of Midis for Spring. Each system has been expertly tailored from a range of outstanding separates, with the emphasis as much on aesthetics as it is on superb acoustics.

There's the ultra chic MD 500 and the mind-blowing MD 1200 (featured above) with its massive 120 watts per channel. Both give a whole new meaning to the term 'remote control' because every element, from their volume levels, twin cassette decks and tuner pre-sets right up to the controls for their turntables can be operated from a full-function LCD handset.

Then there's the ultimate in Hitachi technology: the top of the range 007 series. Purchased individually these separates would hold their own in any advanced audiophile system. Purchased collectively, they form a system that's second to none.

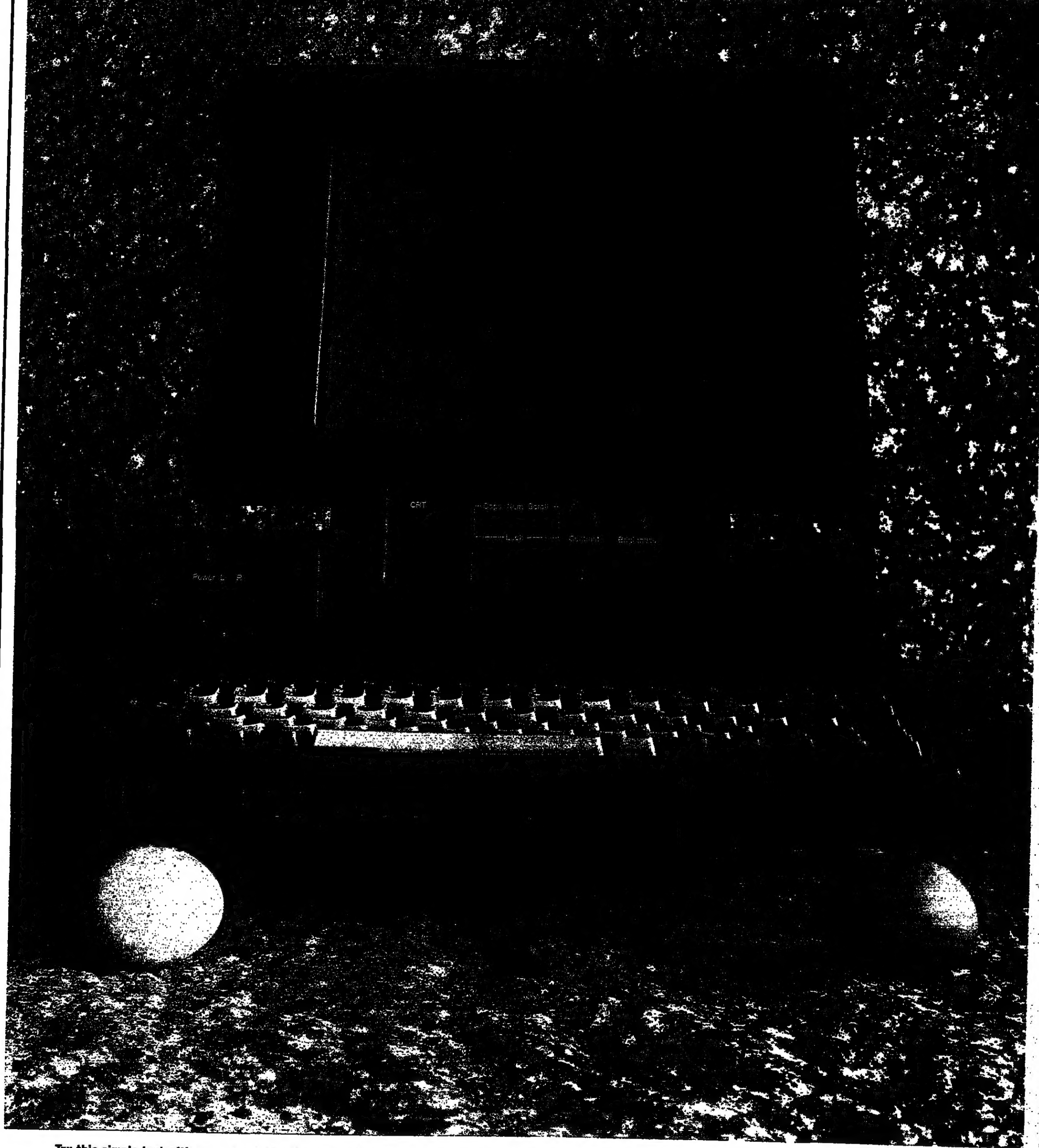
Hitachi are confident that the Spring collection is going to be a hit with those who demand lasting quality and style. So confident that they're selling it with their 5 year guarantee, which until June 30th 1993, comes absolutely free. The collection of separates starts at £179, the complete systems start at £799. Visit any of the listed dealers for a demonstration. Or call 01-200 8206 for further details.

better buy Hitachi.

HITACHI

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hand, tips the scales at a mere 15 lbs. What's more, it measures a diminutive 14.2" x 12.2" so it's genuinely free-ranging.

Yet, with its 40 megabyte hard disk and 386 processor, the TS100 is as fast as IBM's PS/2 Model 80 and as powerful

as virtually any desktop PC currently available.

You'll also find the TS100 as versatile as it is mobile. It's fully compatible with your existing IBM software; has a 2 megabyte RAM expandable to 4 with EMS support; and

its four-intensity gas-plasma screen includes support for CGA and EGA.

All of which should convince even the most hard-boiled of cynics that Toshiba's DESKTOP Portable 386 can take on any of its monolithic opponents.

If you would like to go to work on a TS100, or any of Toshiba's range of Portable PCs, simply phone 8800 282707 or write to TOSHIBA IPS Marketing, Dept. T02, FREEPOST, (TK793), Sunbury-on-Thames, Middlesex TW16 5BR.

**TODAY - TOMORROW
TOSHIBA**

Single market campaign opens with coffee and Vivaldi

By Peter Davenport

Fortified, appropriately, with continental breakfast supplied by the Department of Trade and Industry, the first of 2,000 key businessmen and women yesterday to assemble for the opening of the single European market.

The Government launched the first of 20 regional breakfast seminars at 9.30am, giving the business community for the first time a conference in Newcastle upon Tyne.

After coffee and croissants, more than 200 North-east business executives were shown a video, accompanied



by Vivaldi, highlighting the opportunities available when Europe becomes one market, with 320 million potential customers.

Department of Trade and Industry's Action for Cities breakfasts, also launched in Newcastle last month, are intended to make business aware of the need to make preparations for the advantages and potential dangers of 1992.

Mr Francis Maude, Minister of State for Corporate Affairs with responsibility for negotiations on the single market, told yesterday's conference that the campaign, launched last autumn, was already having a marked effect.

At the start, only 16 per cent of business people knew the single market, now the mes-

age had got home to more than 50 per cent.

The DTI had mailed an initial booklet to 130,000 companies and organizations and had received more than 40,000 requests for further information. But only 750 of those had come from the North-east and that was one of the reasons for staging the regional conferences.

By the end of the year, it was intended that 90 per cent of businessmen and women should be aware of 1992, a figure already achieved in France, Mr Maude said.

"We still have a long way to go, but we are moving rapidly in the right direction," he said. Mr Maude said 1992 would

not just offer more potential customers to exporters; firms would have to protect their home market from well-prepared and eager foreign companies with open access to the UK.

"It is the biggest challenge which British business has faced since we joined the Community in 1973. Completing the single market will affect everyone involved in business in the United Kingdom and no firm in any part of the country can afford to ignore the challenge."

The Newcastle showcase was hosted by Mr Richard Whitley, a presenter with Yorkshire Television, who introduced a panel of local

businessmen already active in Europe.

One, Mr Roger McKernie, the managing director of Derwent Valley Foods which produces crisps and bar snacks, told how his company had "woken up" to the potential of Europe. "We were staggered to find out how culturally similar Europeans are."

The campaign was launched by Mrs Thatcher and Lord Young of Graffham, the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, three weeks ago; by the summer the DTI will have spent £5 million, largely on television and newspaper advertising.

Asked about the cost of the

campaign yesterday, Mr Maude emphasized its value for money.

He said: "The stakes are so very high. If we get it right there are major prizes to be won."

Asked for his initial impressions of the response to the campaign, he said: "I think we have set the guises racing. We cannot provide all the answers at this stage, but people are asking the questions and we can point them towards the answers."

There will be similar seminars in Nottingham and Winchester later this month with 17 others across England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland before the end of the year.

Too many S knew of £1m fraud, jury told

Conspirators in an alleged newspaper bingo fraud were told by a jury that too many people knew about the original £1 million for more casts of when their money ran out, in court was told yesterday.

But by that time, too many people knew about the original £1 million for more casts of when their money ran out, in court was told yesterday.

Mrs Phyllis Hanlon, aged 74, denies conspiracy to obtain from the publishers of *The Sun* more than £1 million by deception. Two other women deny similar charges, involving £10,000.

The jury was told that the conspiracy hinged on the printer, Arthur Sagar, aged 40, of St Matthew Street, Burnley, Lancashire, whose job it was to print winning and losing bingo cards for *The Sun* and *News of the World*. Sagar stole winning cards for his friends or one of whom was allegedly Mrs Hanlon, of Queen's Promenade, Bispham, Blackpool.

After she won £1 million, Sagar and two other accused, John Marshall, aged 33, and his wife Susan, aged 38, of Harrogate, Road, Blackburn, "clamoured for their share" of the money, the jury was told.

Mrs Hanlon allegedly agreed to pay them £15,000 each. Mr Sagar said: "Following a number of months thereafter, Sagar and the Marshalls received cash payments of about £1,000 each a month."

He said that late in 1985, the three were given a final pay-off with the Marshalls receiving £30,000 and Sagar £40,000. They came back for more and Mrs Hanlon agreed to pay a further £10,000, but the police were informed before payment was made.

Sagar, the Marshalls and Mrs Hanlon's son-in-law, Kenneth Fairbrother, aged 50, also of Queen's Promenade, have already admitted conspiracy and will be dealt with at the end of the trial.

The two women pleading guilty are Mrs Margaret Ward, aged 75, of Atherton, Warrington, Greater Manchester, and her daughter-in-law, Mrs Mary Young, aged 44, of the Dog and Doublet public house, Sandon, Staffordshire.

Mrs Young was incorrectly stated to be Mrs Ward's daughter in court on Monday. The case continues today.

Curb right to silence, Lord Lane says

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

Lord Lane, the Lord Chief Justice, yesterday supported some restriction on the right of a suspect to remain silent in police stations.

In a clear signal to Mr Douglas Hurd, the Home Secretary, Lord Lane said it was "high time" the prosecution had the right to comment when a detainee produced a new line of defence, or explanation to the charge at trial, "which the police had had no chance to verify."

The effect of section 58 of the Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984, which restricts the power of the police to deny a suspect access to a solicitor, was such that "the balance between prosecution and defence could not be maintained unless such comment was permitted," he said.

The caution given to a suspect held in a police station before he is questioned should be changed accordingly, he added.

Lord Lane's comments, given in the course of a reserved judgment in the Court of Appeal, come three weeks before Mr Hurd is due to make a statement of the Government's intentions at the report stage of the Criminal Justice Bill.

The Government has said it will not include any change to the rights to silence or to produce new evidence during

the trial — the so-called "right to ambush."

However, during the trial, Mr Hurd said he wanted to give further thought to the matter.

The Law Society, the Criminal Bar Association, and the Police Association, all opposed to any restriction with the right to silence.

Some restriction is strongly favoured by police officers who feel it hampers investigations.

Yesterday, Lord Lane confirmed a ruling in December that under the Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984, the circumstances under which police can deny access to a solicitor is strictly circumscribed.

Under section 58 (b) when a detained person wanted to exercise his right to see a solicitor, an officer could only authorize delay where he had "reasonable grounds" for believing that exercise of the right would lead to interference with, or harm to, evidence connected with a serious arrestable offence, interference or injury to other persons, lead to the alerting of other suspects.

Lord Lane and two other judges dismissed an appeal by Colin Carlton Alladice, aged 20, against conviction in April 1987 at Birmingham Crown Court of robbing a post office of £29,000.

Alton's appeal for extra time



Mr David Alton addressing supporters of his amendment Bill in the House of Commons. Mr Alton is hoping to persuade Mr John Wakeham, Minister of the House, to find Parliamentary time for his Bill, which seeks to reduce the legal limit for abortion to 18 weeks. More than 400 of his supporters from Mr Wakeham's constituency of Colchester

South and Maldon prayed for their MP outside his office in the morning and in the central lobby of the Commons in the afternoon. Mr Alton's Bill was obstructed in the Commons on Friday and ran out of time. Mr Wakeham could grant the extra 90 or so minutes needed to complete the debate on the Bill, but Mr Wakeham has said the Commons that

government time will not be made available for a private member's Bill. Before leaving for London yesterday, protesters raised a petition signed by Wakeham — a private member's Bill. They are intending to find an independent Conservative candidate against him at the next election unless he rejects Mr Alton's having a private meeting with

BR 'has too much overtime'

By John Spicer, Employment Affairs Correspondent

British Rail's staffing levels and alleged policy of not filling jobs as they became vacant were criticized by a union leader yesterday.

Mr. Bert Lyons, general secretary of the Transport Solent Staffs Association, said a confidential internal survey by British Rail showed more than 15,000 workers earned up to four times their basic pay through overtime and other allowances.

At the union's annual conference in Scarborough Mr Lyons called for an inquiry.

He said the report showed that in a sample week 15,022 employees earned more than 200 per cent, and some of those more than 400 per cent, of their basic pay.

These figures are staggering and demand that the British Railways Board should examine seriously the implications of staff reductions and the non-filling of jobs," Mr Lyons said.

British Rail denied there was a policy of not filling vacancies. The turnover of staff was high in some areas and vacancies were continually advertised. It was "quite feasible" some of the 140,000 employees earned high percentages above their basic pay.

They included allowances for unsocial hours, for rest and Sunday working, for arrears in time off not taken, for shift allowances, various bonuses and extra payments for such arrangements as "driver-only trains."

Court of Appeal

Judges seek power to comment on 'ambush defences'

Regina v Alladice

Before Lord Lane, Lord Chief Justice, Mr Justice Rose and Mr Justice Hazen.

(Judgment May 10)

It was high time that proper comment was permitted on the silence of a detainee when interviewed by police but who produced at trial an explanation of or defence to the charge which the police had had no chance to verify.

The effect of section 58 of the Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984 was such that the balance between prosecution and defence could not be maintained unless such comment was permitted, together with the necessary alteration of the words of the caution administered to a detainee on being interviewed.

Lord Lane, Lord Chief Justice, so stated when giving the reserved judgment of the Court of Appeal dismissing an appeal by Colin Carlton Alladice, aged 20, against conviction in April 1987 at Birmingham Crown Court of robbing a post office of £29,000 in cash.

The robbery took place at a post office at Bantall Heath, Birmingham, in July 1986 when five men, one armed with a gun, terrorized the staff.

The appellant was sentenced to eight years' youth custody reduced to seven years on appeal.

Mr C. H. Durman, QC, appeared for the appellant. Mr Timothy Raggart for the Crown.

The LORD CHIEF JUSTICE said that the appellant was interviewed and, according to the police, admitted that he was one of the robbers. There was further evidence that, immediately after the robbery, the appellant, who was employed, spent almost £3,000 on buying and insuring a motor car and paying off debts.

The foundation of the prosecution case against him was the alleged admissions. He contended that the judge was wrong to admit the evidence of the admissions.

The basis of that contention was that the appellant was denied access to a solicitor, as he had requested; and that that denial was contrary to the provisions of the 1984 Act and the Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984 (PCEA) (1984) (ISBN 0 11 340634 X) issued thereunder for two reasons:

1 the police officer who denied access was not qualified under the Act to make the decision; and

2 on a true construction of the Act and the Code, there was no proper basis in fact for his decision to refuse access.

His Lordship said that section 58(1) provided that delay in complying with a request under section 58(1) to consult a solicitor privately at any time was permitted only if the person was

in police detention for a serious arrestable offence and (b) if an officer of at least the rank of superintendent authorized it, or under section 58(1)(a), a chief inspector authorized it, or under section 58(1)(b), a chief inspector authorized it, or under section 58(1)(c), a chief inspector authorized it, or under section 58(1)(d), a chief inspector authorized it, or under section 58(1)(e), a chief inspector authorized it, or under section 58(1)(f), a chief inspector authorized it, or under section 58(1)(g), a chief inspector authorized it, or under section 58(1)(h), a chief inspector authorized it, or under section 58(1)(i), a chief inspector authorized it, or under section 58(1)(j), a chief inspector authorized it, or under section 58(1)(k), a chief inspector authorized it, or under section 58(1)(l), a chief inspector authorized it, or under section 58(1)(m), a chief inspector authorized it, or under section 58(1)(n), a chief inspector authorized it, or under section 58(1)(o), a 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WORLD ROUNDUP

Soldiers shoot at Pakistan rioters

Karachi (Reuters) — Pakistani troops fired on crowds in an area of Karachi under curfew and police arrested rioters and seized arms in the country's biggest city, where 35 people have been killed in three days of ethnic violence.

The police said that trouble broke out early yesterday morning in one of 14 areas placed under curfew in an attempt to contain clashes between Pathans from north-west Pakistan and Mohajirs, Muslim immigrants from India. Groups on both sides built roadblocks and fired at police and firemen trying to reach fires, police said. They said that troops fired back at one crowd, wounding eight people, after tear gas failed to break up the gathering.

US expels diplomat

Washington (AP) — The US Administration yesterday told Singapore to withdraw one of its diplomats in Washington, four days after Singapore expelled an American diplomat. "We have requested the Government of Singapore to withdraw Robert H. H. Chua, First Secretary in the Singapore Embassy here, and hope that we can now put this unfortunate episode behind us," Mr Charles Redman, the State Department spokesman, said.

Last Friday, Singapore asked that Mr E. Mason Henderson be withdrawn from the US Embassy in Singapore on grounds that he had interfered in the domestic affairs of that country. Mr Redman said the allegations were "totally without foundation".

Refugee task force

Hong Kong (Reuters) — Hong Kong, battling to contain an ever-growing stream of Vietnamese refugees arriving by boat, is to build three new closed camps and create a special government task force to tackle the problem, officials said yesterday.

The arrival of 71 more boat people on Monday night took the number of refugees in the British colony to 12,055, not far off the rough estimate of 13,000 for the whole year. As hard-pressed immigration officers and volunteer workers struggled to process the latest arrivals the Government said that it would build three more camps to ease the strain. These, former army installations, will be equipped for use within a few weeks.

Lucky star-gazing

Washington — Mrs Nancy Reagan plans to continue consulting her San Francisco astrologer (Christopher Thomas writes). Ms Elaine Crispin, her spokeswoman, insisted: "It's done for the sake of comfort, like a good-luck charm." A Washington columnist, who interviewed President Reagan, quoted him as saying: "I'll be damned if I'll let them railroad my wife." The President said Mrs Reagan was "very upset". She had apologised for having "brought all this down" on his head, to which he had replied: "No honey, I brought all this down on you by taking this job."

Hamburg setback

Bonn — Only two days after a landslide election victory in Schleswig-Holstein, West Germany's Social Democrats were shaken yesterday by the surprise resignation of Herr Klaus von Dohnanyi, aged 59, the mayor and their leader in the neighbouring city-state of Hamburg (John England writes). He told a press conference: "Seven years in this office is a long time." He believed that a younger man should take over. The Social Democrats formed a ruling coalition with the Free Democrats. The Christian Democratic Union yesterday called for new elections.

Two die in jet crash

Two crew members of a Tornado jet fighter were killed yesterday when their aircraft crashed during a routine training flight from RAF Bruggen in West Germany (Michael Evans, Defence Correspondent, writes).

The pilot, Flight Lieutenant Steven Wright, aged 28, and the navigator, Flight Lieutenant John O'Shea, aged 31, were killed when the Tornado hit open ground about 50 miles west of Osnabrück yesterday morning. A number of houses were slightly damaged but there were no civilian casualties. The Ministry of Defence said an inquiry would be held.

UN censure blocked

New York — The US exercised its veto yesterday to block the adoption in the UN Security Council of a resolution censuring Israel for its latest incursion into southern Lebanon. General Vernon Walters, the US delegate, criticized the resolution's failure to take note of what he termed attacks and reprisals on both sides of the Israel-Lebanon border. But he said the US strongly supported the independence, territorial integrity and unity of Lebanon. Britain supported the resolution because the latest Israeli action would make a solution all the more difficult to find, its representative said.

Moscow accused of renegeing on verification rules
Senate postpones debate on INF Treaty

From Christopher Thomas, Washington

Foreign ministers of the United States and the Soviet Union held crucial talks today and tomorrow to try to settle serious last-minute disputes that are threatening to delay Senate ratification of the Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces Treaty.

The Senate refused to debate the pact until the disagreements are settled, raising the serious possibility that the treaty will not be approved before the Moscow summit between President Reagan and Mr Mikhail Gorbachev, the Soviet leader, starting May 29.

Mrs Thatcher, the Prime Minister, said in an interview published here yesterday that Senate failure to approve the treaty before the summit could "undermine the new feeling of rising confidence and rising hope" about events in the Soviet Union.

After a day of high-level talks Democrats and Republicans in the Senate decided, with White House approval, to postpone consideration of the treaty indefinitely until disagreements over rules for verifying compliance were resolved.

As Mr George Shultz, the Secretary of State, left for his talks with Mr Eduard Shevardnadze, the Soviet Foreign Minister, Administration officials said they were optimistic that the highly technical disagreements would be quickly resolved so the Senate could approve the treaty before the summit.

The White House said the Senate debate would be delayed until verification had been resolved "to the full".

satisfaction of the Administration and the bipartisan congressional leadership. We feel this is a prudent and reasonable course of action".

It added that there was unanimity between the Administration and the bipartisan Senate leadership that the problems should be promptly resolved before ratification. "The Administration has made clear to the Soviets the need for an expeditious solution. We hope to resolve these disputes quickly. We are still of the view that it is possible to have the treaty ratified prior to the Moscow summit."

The Senate had provisionally planned to begin considering the pact today. But after a closed-door briefing to the intelligence committee by Mr Maynard Glitman, the chief INF negotiator, Senate leaders concluded that the Kremlin was renegeing on earlier agreements on verification rules.

Senator William Cohen, the Republican vice-chairman of the committee, said there were serious problems "and until they are resolved we should not proceed with full-fledged debate in the Senate". Senator Robert Byrd, the Senate Democratic leader, said some old verification problems had not been resolved and new ones had arisen. He hoped Mr Shultz and Mr Shevardnadze would settle the differences but emphasized that the Senate would not allow consideration of the treaty to be determined by the timing of the summit.

Moscow formally re-

sponded on Sunday to US complaints that it was backing away from verification obligations. After deciding that the response was inadequate the intelligence committee met Mr Howard Baker, the White House Chief of Staff, and Lieutenant-General Colin Powell, the National Security Adviser, so that the announcement of a delay could be made with complete unity.

The differences emerged in talks between US and Soviet experts last month in talks over the detailed rules for the unprecedented on-site inspection provisions. Mr Shultz met Mr Yuri Dobinin, the Soviet Ambassador to Washington, last week and pressed Moscow to reconfirm quickly that it was not differing from the US understanding of the treaty provisions.

Mrs Thatcher, interviewed by *The Washington Post*, said the summit provided an important opportunity for President Reagan to demonstrate the West's support for changes Mr Gorbachev was trying to make in the Soviet Union.

"I think that (Mr Reagan's) visit to the Soviet Union could really be a very great plus for the West, indicating that the reforms that Mr Gorbachev has started are very much not only to the benefit of the people of the Soviet Union but... to the rest of the world."

It was unlikely that a new treaty on reductions in strategic nuclear weapons would be ready in time, but she indicated that that should not be a cause for concern.

Leading article, page 15



Mr Shevardnadze, the Soviet Foreign Minister, talking to reporters at Geneva yesterday about his pre-summit meeting today and tomorrow with Mr Shultz, his US counterpart.

Pact doubts transform Geneva talks agenda

By Andrew McEwen, Diplomatic Correspondent, and Alan McGraw, Geneva

The risk that an American-Soviet row over verification of the Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces Treaty might take the gloss off the Moscow summit has made this week's talks between the superpowers' foreign ministers far more significant than expected.

Mr George Shultz, the US Secretary of State, and Mr Eduard Shevardnadze, his Soviet counterpart, had expected their meetings in Geneva today and tomorrow to be amiable but not highly productive.

Until the US Senate decided to delay its ratification debate, the INF Treaty was not seen as the main problem. Diplomats on both sides thought they could settle the verification issues. Mr Shevardnadze said on arrival in Geneva yesterday that the "basic differences" were already solved.

Both men had expected to give more time to a final—but probably futile—effort to resolve the remaining obstacles to a strategic arms treaty. After monthly meetings since the last summit in Washington, it was already clear that the chances of sealing a pact at Moscow to cut superpower long-range arsenals by 50 per cent were minimal. With nothing really new to warrant the summit, the fallback understanding was that the two leaders would turn it into a second celebration of the INF deal, together with a message of hope on regional co-operation follow-

ing the Afghanistan accord. But that calculation has been upset by the US Senate's decision. Even allowing for the ritual rows which have preceded other summits, Western diplomats feel that the stakes have been raised. The essential political tone of the Moscow meeting could be affected.

If the foreign ministers fail to agree at Geneva on an interpretation of the verification procedures in the INF Treaty, there will be no hope of Senate approval by May 29. While the two leaders could pass it off as a temporary setback, it would further delay—and possibly kill—the chances of achieving a strategic arms deal during the lifetime of the Reagan Administration. Mr Paul Nitze, the most experienced of President Reagan's arms control advisers, believes that if a strategic accord is not agreed by September, it will fall foul of the US electoral calendar.

The goal of completing it by the Moscow meeting looked highly ambitious even at the time of the Washington summit. Although the outlines have long been agreed, differences on details run into hundreds of points. Over the last three months, progress has been measurable only with a diplomatic micrometer.

The Americans considered it a triumph when they got Moscow to agree that the two sides would set down a joint draft with "square brackets"

showing their differences. There has been talk of turning this into a "framework agreement" which would allow President Reagan and Mr Gorbachev to give an appearance of progress. But Mr Nitze says that Washington opposes the idea because of previous bad experience. It has been found that agreements to agree seldom work.

The two sides have still not settled one of the most basic questions: whether there can be a strategic arms agreement without at the same time a settling of differences on the Strategic Defence Initiative—the Star Wars anti-missile system so forthrightly championed by Mr Reagan. Washington says there can be, but Moscow is adamant there cannot.

The Americans think they have narrowed differences on SDI to three issues, but the points are fundamental: the period during which both would agree not to withdraw from the 1972 Anti-Ballistic Missile Treaty; what would happen at the end of that period; and how much testing of space-based anti-missile technologies would be allowed during the period.

Mr Nitze said: "One has to be a true optimist to believe that it really is feasible at this stage of the game (to conclude a strategic arms treaty)." But Mr Shevardnadze pointed out that the fact that the deadline could not be met did not mean that work should stop.

Last-minute haggling over text and interpretation

By Michael Evans, Defence Correspondent

The US Senate's reluctance to begin its debate on the ratification of the Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces Treaty stems from last-minute haggling by the Soviet Union over the language and interpretation of the text.

Although the detailed contents of the pact were approved by the leaders of both superpowers, Moscow is now trying to reinterpret certain aspects. There are three main areas of dispute, two of them arising from the Soviet camp and one from the American.

During the lengthy negotiations, it was agreed by both sides that a clause should be inserted into the text allowing inspectors to examine visually any container which, though not big enough to hold a complete missile, could conceal "stages" of an intermediate-range weapon. Ironically, it was Moscow which pressed hard for this, because the US Pershing 2A missile can be moved from one location to another in separate stages, whereas the Soviet SS-20 is transported in one container.

But now the Soviet Union is saying the Americans should not have the same right to inspect smaller containers on designated INF sites because the clause in the treaty was specifically aimed at US Pershing canisters. The Americans are arguing that the language of the text was applicable for both sides.

The second issue concerns inspection of buildings and facilities within the perimeter of the INF sites. Washington insists that any building can be inspected if there is considered to be room inside for "treaty-limited items". Under the pact, the host country must inform the inspection team about the number of missiles, launchers and support structures subject to the treaty and to provide a diagram of where everything is located.

The INF deal states that inspectors will have the right to "inspect the entire inspection site, including the interior of structures, containers or vehicles whose dimensions are equal to or greater than" the agreed measurements of the missiles to be eliminated.

But Moscow wants to limit the number of buildings that can be inspected under the verification rules. As one senior American source said: "If the Russians have got a large warehouse which they say they are using for stocking supplies for the mess hall, they want this to be off limits. We say there should be no exceptions."

The third problem is over "futuristic" INF missiles. The Senate was concerned that the treaty did not cover weapons that might be armed with laser or microwave devices, rather than nuclear warheads. The issue was raised some time ago. To appease American concern, Mr Eduard Shevardnadze, the Soviet Foreign Minister, wrote to Mr George Shultz, the US Secretary of State, agreeing that such futuristic weapons should come under the overall ban.

But a number of senators are not happy with this reassurance, and want a special memorandum of understanding to be drawn up and exchanged by both sides. Until these problems are resolved, the Senate will put off its ratification debate. Some US officials believe that the stand taken by the Senate is not bad. One said: "It will send the right sort of message to Moscow, making it clear that they can't chip away at the edges of the treaty."

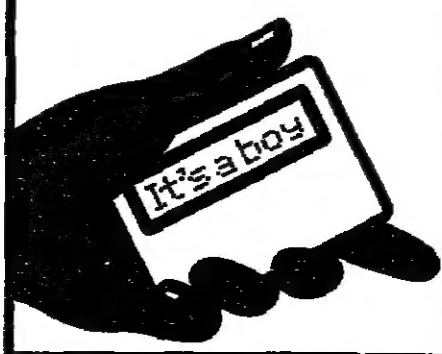
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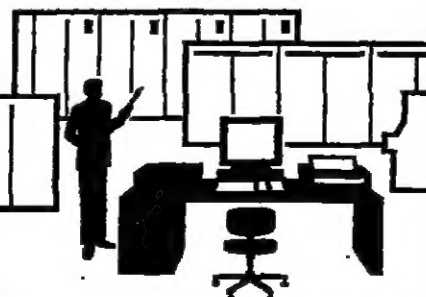
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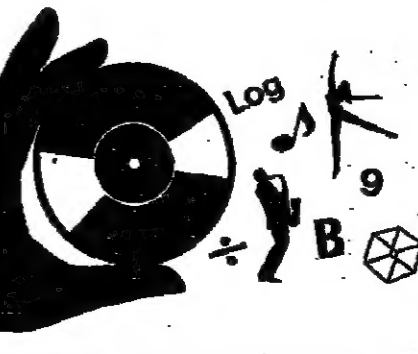
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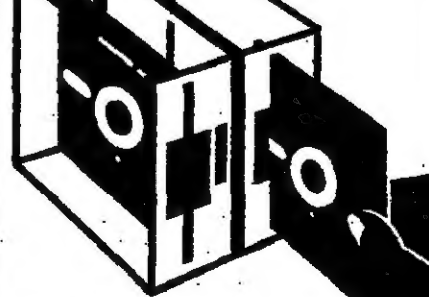
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Beirut pact forestalls Syria drive into southern suburbs

From Juan Carlos Guncio, west Beirut

A new ceasefire in the battle for the southern suburbs of west Beirut appears to have diminished any chance of an immediate Syrian military advance into those areas of the Lebanese capital in which up to 22 foreign hostages are thought to be held.

The deployment of Syrian troops into the principle stronghold of the pro-Iranian Hezbollah (Party of God) militia was in any event an option which the Syrian Government wished to avoid.

The warning issued by Brigadier-General Ghazi Kanaan, the commander of Syrian forces in Lebanon, to the effect that he was ready to use military force to stop the bloodshed, thus bore its real fruit yesterday. This new ceasefire had by dusk lasted for almost 24 hours during which time General Kanaan had been in constant contact with Mr. Hussein Sheikholeslam, the Iranian Deputy

Foreign Minister, who was in Beirut to mediate between the Hezbollah and their pro-Syrian Amal militia opponents.

Hostilities had died down almost immediately after General Kanaan's threat. It is he who is credited with the painful "pacification" of the northern Lebanese city of Tripoli when it was held by Muslim radicals in 1975.

General Kanaan had helped yesterday to form six security committees made up of Amal and Hezbollah officials; they were touring the front line last night within the suburbs in which both sides had been fighting with field artillery, mortars and tanks. A source close to one of the committees said the Syrians and the Lebanese were "very satisfied and encouraged" by the development of the ceasefire.

The sporadic sniping which had continued within the 16-square-mile maze of poor residential buildings was

described only as "isolated incidents".

Despite the apparent political improvement, however, it will take a long time before participants in the fighting can come to terms with some of the atrocities which have clearly taken place. Amal officials have listed the names of at least three men whom they said were tortured by Hezbollah before being "handed to pieces". Amal also said that four other members of their organization, who were unarmed, had been arrested and summarily executed on a street in the Haret Hraik district.

One badly wounded Amal man, lying in a bed of the American University Hospital in west Beirut, who gave his name as Adel Muhanna, told me that he had been hit by six bullets when Hezbollah members walked into his home and opened fire at his legs.

Another, Mr. Khaled Nas-

ser, aged 22, was too gravely ill to speak, but his mother described how Hezbollah members blew off his leg at close range with an anti-tank grenade.

For their part Hezbollah officials have accused Mr. Nabih Berri, the Amal leader, of being "a new war criminal" because he had used heavy artillery on suburban slums.

Hospital authorities in west Beirut have denied reports that there had been inter-militia fighting and kidnappings in the emergency wards. However there does appear to have been violence in al-Saleh Hospital.

Hopes that the Syrians might move at once into the suburbs — founded upon the thought that the Syrians might be able to release Western hostages — apparently did not take account of the degree to which President Assad of Syria wishes to avoid a direct confrontation with Hezbollah.

Hostage tells of ordeal in Lebanon

French 'may have seen Waite'

From Philip Jacobson, Paris

In a harrowing account of his three years as a hostage in Beirut, the French journalist Jean-Paul Kauffmann, revealed yesterday that one of his fellow captives who became desperately ill had received a blood transfusion from the leader of the gang which had kidnapped them.

Mr. Kauffmann also believes that he and Mr. Marcel Fontaine, the French diplomat held with him, may have caught a brief glimpse of Mr. Terry Waite, the Archbishop of Canterbury's special envoy, shortly after they were transferred to a new hiding place.

Thanks to a radio they were occasionally allowed, they knew that Mr. Waite had been kidnapped early in 1987.

Looking through the keyhole of their cell one night, Mr. Fontaine had suddenly cried: "They've got a new hostage." Taking his turn to peep, M

Kauffmann says he saw "a really big fellow". According to other reports since the three Frenchmen were flown home, M. Fontaine has told colleagues that he had subsequently spent some time in captivity with Mr. Waite.

When Michel Saurat, a French researcher who shared Mr. Kauffmann's cell, was diagnosed as suffering from acute hepatitis (by a Lebanese doctor of Jewish origin who was also being held hostage), the Shia militant was the only man who shared his rare blood group. As Saurat's condition continued to deteriorate, Dr. Elie Hallat made frantic efforts to save him but in vain.

In a deeply moving passage from M. Kauffmann's story, published in the magazine *L'Evenement du Jeudi* (which had sent him to Beirut) a week after he and two French

diplomats were liberated, he tells of Saurat's slow and painful decline until the day that he said goodbye and was taken away to die. Hallat was executed as a "Zionist spy" soon after. M. Kauffmann vows: "I'll never forget him."

Like other hostages before him in Lebanon, M. Kauffmann found in his captors from the Islamic Jihad faction a bewildering, often downright alarming, combination of chilling heartlessness and spontaneous warmth — "neither human nor inhuman" as Saurat observed before his death.

Between tormenting their blindfolded prisoners with threats of summary execution, to the sound of rifles being cocked, and deliberately raising their hopes of release, the young gunmen who guarded them in the succession of cells to which they were shuttled

around the Lebanese capital could be polite, even compassionate.

If M. Kauffmann's theory about Mr. Waite is correct, it would provide the first reliable, eye-witness information about him.

British government officials are eager to debrief M. Fontaine, but this will have to wait until he is discharged from the Val de Grâce military hospital, to which he returned earlier this week, apparently suffering from delayed shock.

But it appears that none of the Frenchmen know anything about the fate of the British television journalist, John McCarthy, who disappeared in Beirut during April of last year.

Even so, it is reported that Mr. McCarthy's girlfriend, Miss Jill Morrell, hopes to visit Paris and talk to M. Kauffmann.

High Mass amid Andean peaks

From Mac Margolis
La Paz

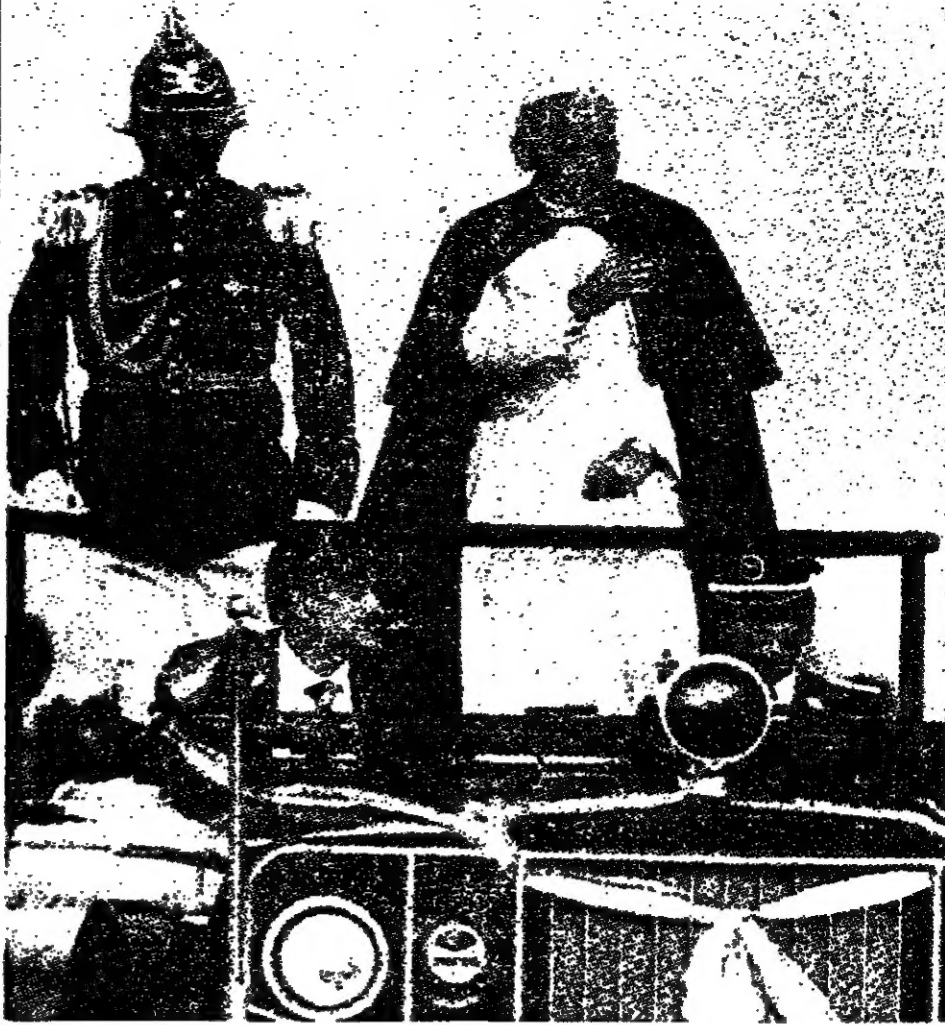
The Pope celebrated the world's highest Mass yesterday on Bolivia's Andean plateau, the 13,000ft plateau that sits at the edge of a snow-covered Andean peak.

Surrounded by thousands of poor Aymara peasants in bowler hats, many of whom had waited patiently since before dawn, the Pope delivered a "homily for the family". In what has been interpreted as a predominantly pastoral mission, the Pontiff warned against the evils of abortion, the ills of family planning, divorce and women's liberation.

In a lengthy defence of matrimony, the Pope issued a stern warning: "My Bolivian brothers, don't allow yourselves to be seduced by the easy recourse of divorce." Jesus condemned couples who live together out of wedlock.

He called for respect for duty to the family, criticizing those who would bury themselves "in work, or society, or politics, or worse, seek refuge in excessive drink or other degrading habits". One such habit, he asserted, was that of "women's liberation, which does not promote, but instead subjugates the woman even more".

The Pope arrived in Bolivia on Monday after a three-day visit to Uruguay. In an address to the diplomatic corps of La Paz, the Pope struck a distinctly secular note, strongly condemning "the extreme poverty which many countries continue to face".



The Pope greeting the Bolivian faithful from an open car after his arrival at La Paz airport.

Contra leaders meet to quell mutiny

From Alan Tomlinson, Miami

With several thousand of their men in open mutiny at a rebel camp in Honduras, Nicaraguan Contra leaders are meeting here in a frantic effort to patch up a deepening dispute that threatens to tear their movement apart.

Political leaders of the fractured anti-Sandinista organization gathered on Monday at Contra headquarters on the edge of Miami international airport and met separately with Colonel Enrique Bermudez, the rebel military chief, and three senior field commanders who are chal-

lenging his authority. The mutineers presented a five-page document signed by 52 rebel officers demanding the replacement of Colonel Bermudez by a council of commanders.

The petition was gathered after the colonel relieved Commandante Walter Calderon, known by his nom de guerre Toño, and seven other dissidents of their posts after a rift over the signing in March of a preliminary ceasefire agreement with the Sandinista Government at the southern border town of Sapoa. The

peace process, which established a 60-day truce that will expire on May 31 unless further progress is made in continuing negotiations, also caused a split.

Toño and his allies were arrested by the Honduran Army last week and put on a plane to Miami where they accused Colonel Bermudez of having used his influence to engineer their deportation.

Another senior field commander known as Commandante Fernando, who signed the Sapoa pact along with Toño on behalf of the military wing,

eluded arrest. Sources in Honduras say he made his way to a rebel camp at the village of Yamales, about 20 miles from the border. He and as many as 3,000 followers are reported to have blockaded themselves inside the camp.

Before their expulsion from Honduras, dissidents said hundreds of Contra fighters were pulling out of Nicaragua in a show of opposition to Colonel Bermudez. However, government sources and relief workers in Tegucigalpa attributed this to lack of food supplies.

Undaunted founders of illegal opposition party defy the KGB

From Christopher Walker
Moscow

Mr. Andrei Derzhyarkina angrily pulled up his sweater to display what he and his colleagues regard as the inevitable price of trying to form a legal opposition and so challenge the political monopoly of the Soviet Communist Party: three ugly bruises and an inch-long wound in his side, allegedly caused by a militiaman's boot.

"Most of us who were arrested on Sunday after the party was first announced were beaten inside Moscow's Police Station No 16. There were others, including one man from the Siberian town of Tomsk, who were hurt much more than I was," Mr. Derzhyarkina, a 28-year-old lawyer, explained.

He is one of the 150 founding members of the Democratic

Union party. We were talking in the eighth-floor flat on the outskirts of Moscow where one of the founding meetings took place. Another founder of the opposition party, Mr. Valery Tserikhov, took me to the window to watch two burly individuals standing idly in the sunshine outside a rundown chemist's shop. "That is the KGB. They are watching us all the time, but we are not afraid," he said.

Both aspiring politicians were remarkable people and not only because of their apparent refusal to be bowed by the might of the Soviet establishment, which has already turned against their embryonic party with a vengeance.

Both were prepared to speak quite openly about having defied efforts by the security forces to banish them from Moscow. Mr. Derzhyarkina had left the express

train taking him back to the Volga town of Saratov and returned to the capital in a commuter train, while Mr. Tserikhov, an economist from Leningrad, had returned by overnight train after being flown back there on police orders.

"We have come back because there is still business surrounding the founding of our party to be completed," Mr. Derzhyarkina told *The Times*. "Because of the arrests, some of the election processes, to our ruling Soviet (Council) have to be redone. Also, we are planning to launch our platform and constitution at a press conference."

Also present in the cramped, untidy, one-room apartment in which the telephone rang repeatedly with queries from the Western media and Soviet sympathizers were two other founders of the

party, Mr. Aleksandr Lubichenko, a former art student with dark hair hanging almost to his waist, and Mrs. Yevgenya Deryanskaya, a mother of two. All spoke with intensity about what they claimed was wide but undeclared support for their plan for free elections in the Soviet Union. After about 15 minutes of our conversation, the number of KGB pavement minders had been doubled to four.

"We have little hope of being registered, but we still intend to try and field our own candidates for official Soviet elections," Mrs. Deryanskaya explained. A thin, intelligent woman known for her connections with Moscow's political underground, Mrs. Deryanskaya said, when asked her profession, that she was "unemployed". Mr. Lubichenko, the only non-conformist looking member at the

special arranged interview, said: "The authorities want to make confusion, that is why they are clamping down on us so hard. But they cannot intimidate us."

To a Western outsider, the gathering was reminiscent of a fringe left-wing meeting in Europe in the late 1960s than of Moscow in the 1980s. On a bookshelf was a copy of *The Handbook of Non-Violence*, and Mr. Lubichenko sported a lapel badge declaring, "I was arrested for peace."

But the behaviour of the KGB and the uniformed militia, acting, it is understood, on high-level Kremlin instructions, has left no doubt that the Communist Party leadership regards an attempt to found a rival party as a serious threat, however small and isolated its membership may seem. In addition to Mr. Sergei Grigoryants,

the editor of the journal *Glasnost*, jailed for seven days for backing the new grouping, three members of the staff of the journal were jailed for five days.

The journal, one of the most widely known media products of the Gorbachev era, had committed the error of lending its headquarters, a dacha in the Moscow countryside, for an inaugural meeting of the fledgling opposition party.

Severely hampered by strict regulations against the use of photocopies, the Democratic Union's leadership is waiting to put together sufficient copies of its manifesto — being typed on clandestine typewriters in different parts of the city — in order to be able to stage its press conference later this week.

"The main things we support

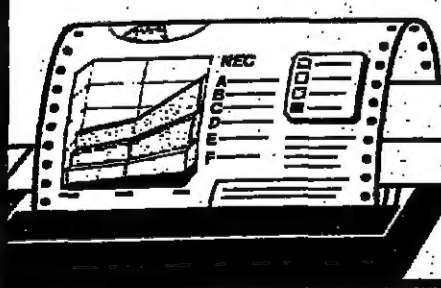
are a mixed economy and political pluralism which would allow many parties to contest openly elections in the Soviet Union," Mr. Lubichenko said. "We do not advocate one particular political system over another: we want to gather what is best from all different existing systems."

The Democratic Union will be run by a central co-ordinating committee of which 13 members will come from Moscow and the rest from other areas of the Soviet Union.

Its opponents among other, more left-wing informal groups see it as too closely aligned to Western liberal principles to have any hope of success or even of survival.

As yet, it remains better known to the Western public than readers of the official Soviet press.

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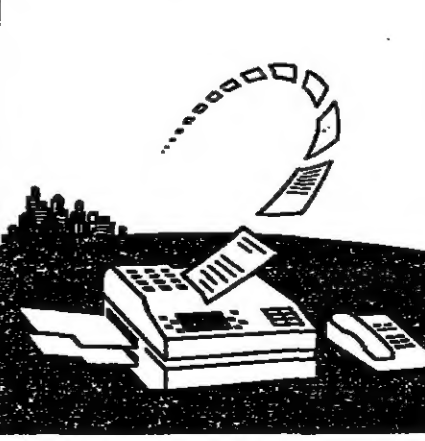
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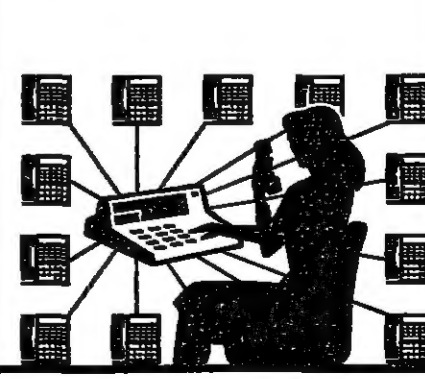
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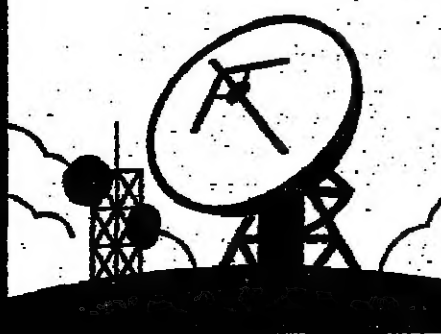
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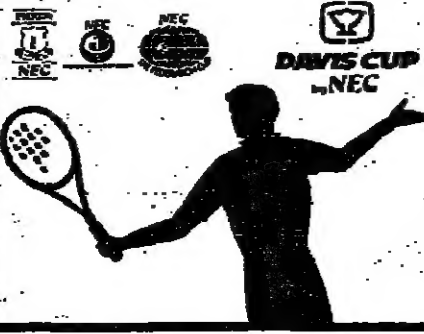
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Burmese accused of atrocities in war against insurgents

By Anatol Lieven

Burmese government troops engaged in a long-running war against separatist and Communist insurgents have committed many atrocities. Amnesty International says in a report out today.

The London-based human rights organization provides many examples of what it calls the "indiscriminate brutality" of the Burmese Army's operations: tribal peasants shot in their fields; suspects tortured and women raped. A common cause of death among villagers from the minority groups is conscription as Army porters, followed by beatings and starvation.

On the other side, as observers

have pointed out, the 10 or so minority insurgent groups too have murdered Burmese civilians, and have shown little mercy to government soldiers who fall into their hands. Many of these groups have been in intermittent rebellion against the Burmese authorities since the country gained independence from Britain in 1948.

Indeed, it is not strictly accurate to call the resulting conflict a "civil war". Even before the British came, many of these tribes paid only sporadic tribute to the Burmese crown and effectively ruled themselves.

The minorities make up about one-third of Burma's population. They are scattered around the hills

and jungles of the country's frontier regions, while the Burmese inhabit the central plains. They enjoy, in theory at least, a measure of autonomy.

Last year, government forces appeared to be doing well. They captured two Kachin strongholds, and cut some of the drug-trading routes of other insurgent groups. Meanwhile, the country's economic situation has been deteriorating. This is mainly due to the policies pursued by the military Government of General Ne Win since he came to power in 1962.

State policy is based on the ideology of "Burmese socialism", which is heavily influenced by Buddhism. It emphasizes stability

and contentment rather than growth. It has strictly regulated the economy and enforced Burma's isolation from the outside world.

The result has been a huge black market and economic paralysis. Despite Burma's borrowings abroad being deliberately kept low, repayments now amount to over 70 per cent of export earnings.

Last year, Burma — one of the most fertile countries — was facing a breakdown of its rice distribution system. The fall in international rice prices also hit export earnings. The country can no longer afford to import the oil and spare parts needed to keep its disintegrating transport system going.

A special oil deal reached under

the auspices of the World Bank is only intended to keep specific development projects going. Last December, Burma applied to and received from the UN the status of "least developed country".

As a result of this, General Ne Win last August publicly admitted the need for change. Private trade in rice was legalized, initially for internal trade and then for export. The results, however, have been disappointing. The disparity between official and black market prices means that no one is willing to sell their produce through official channels. The state's ability to procure rice is in danger of collapse and so is its ability to feed its soldiers, public workers and the

urban poor. In what appeared to have been an attack on the finances of smugglers and insurgents, the Government last September cancelled without compensation the three largest currency notes in circulation, ruining many ordinary people. Observers were surprised that protests were restricted to a few hundred students. Resentment among the urban population, however, smouldered underground. In March of this year, it burst into flame in Rangoon. The protests were once again led by students. Reports reaching the outside world suggest that at least 60 people, and perhaps many more, were killed in the six days of disturbances.

The government-controlled me-

dia have admitted only one death, but witnesses speak of many people being beaten to death in the streets by police, or suffocated in police vans.

The protesters did not formulate clear demands but students have demanded punishment for the officers who gave the initial order to open fire. They also demanded the right to form their own independent students' union. The rioting was eventually brought to an end by troops supported by armour. These riots were the most serious in Burma for 14 years. The Government appears uncertain whether to continue its policy of repression, or resume the hesitant liberalization begun last year.

Red Army man arrested in Tokyo-Seoul Olympics net

From David Watts in Tokyo and Gavin Bell in Seoul

A joint Japanese-South Korean security sweep designed to prevent terrorist disruption of the Seoul Olympic Games has led to the arrest, four months before the Games, of a Japanese Red Army member who helped stage the Japanese Red Army terrorist group's hijacking of an airliner to North Korea 18 years ago.

The North Korean Red Army group has long appeared to operate independently of the rest of the Red Army which has been based in the Bekaa Valley in eastern Lebanon under the leadership of Ms Fusako Shigenobu. The latest arrest and intimidation of forthcoming action may cause investigators to re-assess that evaluation.

The Japanese Government said that the reappearance in Japan of Yasuhiro Shibata might be part of the Red Army's plans to disrupt the Olympics. The Japanese Foreign Minister, Mr Sosuke Uno, said Shibata could not have left North Korea without the Government's approval.

Shibata was arrested last Friday on passport charges during what police said were pre-Games security checks. Other sources claim that the Government received a tip from abroad before picking him up.

He had used the family registration of a Japanese Korean with dual nationality, who returned to North Korea 16 years ago, to obtain a passport falsely. He slipped back into Japan in August 1986 and in the meantime had been in Britain, The Netherlands and France, according to his passport. He had been living under a false name in a Tokyo flat for the last few weeks after moving around Japan since his return. Evidence that the Red Army was

planning attacks in South Korea emerged from the arrest of Osamu Maruoka, alleged to be one of its main leaders, in Tokyo late last year.

Last month another Red Army man, Ya Kikumura, was arrested in New Jersey, the boot of his car filled with sophisticated fire extinguisher bombs, and Red Army involvement is suspected in the explosion at the Naples US servicemen's club which killed five people.

The hijacking of the Japan Air Lines Boeing 727 took

place in March, 1970, over Mount Fuji just six months after the Red Army had been launched. Shibata was then aged 17. The nine hijackers, armed with steel pipe-bombs, took over the plane after it had taken off from Haneda, the old international airport in Tokyo.

They touched down in Fukuoka on the southern island of Kyushu before attempting to fly over South Korea to Pyongyang. The South Koreans forced the plane to land in Seoul and the then Japanese Vice-Minister of Transport, Mr Shinjiro Yamamura, volunteered to act as a hostage if

the rest of the passengers and cabin crew were freed. The hijackers let them leave the plane and flew on to a life of exile in the land of President Kim Il Sung where they seem to have lived in limbo on a commune 40 minutes from Pyongyang.

Interviewed in Pyongyang three years later, Shibata had lost none of his revolutionary zeal but after years of studying President Kim's ideology, teaching Japanese and acting as interpreters the exiles professed desperate homesickness in a 1981 newsletter titled *Thinking of Japan*.

Shibata told the Japanese interviewer in 1973 that the death of a woman under the tracks of an American tank in Okinawa and deaths from the mercury poisoning of Minamata Bay had touched off "a question of what in the world the Japanese people are. Who are they, being killed by tanks or poisoned like dogs and cats?"

The only solution, Shibata said, was "the entire Japanese population must take their stand and overthrow the regime that kills".

In an article in the Red Army newsletter recently, Shibata recalled the death of his mother from cancer in 1985 and said the fact that she had been a victim of the Nagasaki atomic bomb had started him off on a radical path.

One of the hijackers died in a Pyongyang hospital in 1985. At the first meeting of the joint Japan-South Korea Games Security Committee last month the Japanese said they thought all the remaining eight members of the hijack team had left North Korea.

Mr Shibata's arrest followed the high-level talks between Japanese and South Korean

officials aimed at countering the threat of terrorism at the Olympics.

Security forces in Seoul have been receiving discreet advice and training from anti-terrorist specialists in several countries, including the SAS, but co-operation with Japan was placed on a more official footing with the creation of the powerful joint committee.

A 10-member Korean delegation which attended a meeting of the committee in Tokyo late last month comprised officials from four government ministries and the Agency for National Security Planning (ANSP).

Details of the talks have not been disclosed, but Japanese intelligence agents are understood to be contributing to ANSP computer records of some 6,000 known and suspected terrorists belonging to 600 organizations.

Japan's expanding Navy is also planning to join a US carrier battle group for its largest post-war manoeuvres off the South Korean coast which will coincide with the Olympics in September. Analysts regard the exercises as a signal to North Korea not to disrupt the Games.

Informed sources said the close co-operation with Tokyo reflected particular concern about possible attacks by Pyongyang and the Red Army. Japan has a resident community of Koreans sympathetic to Pyongyang, and two North Korean agents who destroyed a Korean Air Boeing 707 last November were carrying forged Japanese passports.

Eighteen North Koreans are to go to Japan this month for the Asian Table Tennis Championships despite sanctions introduced after the bombing of the airliner.

Bomb at US bank in Delhi kills one



Police carrying away the body of the man, possibly a bomber, who died in yesterday's blast at the Citibank office in Delhi.

Blast link to Sikh separatists

By Our Foreign Staff

One man was killed and 13 people wounded by a bomb blast yesterday at a branch of the US Citibank in the centre of Delhi, the Indian capital.

Police said they did not know who planted the device, but immediate suspicion fell on Sikh separatists fighting for the establishment of a separate homeland in the northern state of Punjab.

The incident came amid rumours in Amritsar, the Punjab Sikh holy city, that the security forces were about to enter the Golden Temple where 50 alleged terrorists are said to be holed up. Yesterday,

nearly 700 pilgrims were removed from the temple area.

The Delhi explosion, which devastated the bank, came on the eve of the first anniversary of the dismissal of the elected Akali Dal state government and the imposition of direct rule from Delhi.

A US Embassy spokeswoman said that staff had been apprised of a "red alert" issued by police against possible attacks in the capital after a significant upturn in separatist violence throughout Punjab. But she denied suggestions that US diplomatic staff had been warned

of possible Sikh reprisals for the deportation to India from America two weeks ago of a wanted Sikh extremist, Bhai Singh Ankhli, for staying after his visa had expired.

The bomb demolished the entire third-floor office of the bank in the Connaught Place shopping area. The Lieutenant-Governor of Delhi, Mr H. L. Kapoor, said: "We have no idea who did it and are making no inferences about whether it was a terrorist attack from internal or external groups." Mr Vijay Karan, the Delhi chief of police, said his men had been

checking banks for possible bomb attacks and that the Citibank branch had been checked five times on Monday. He did not know if police had visited it yesterday.

Mr Karan said that the dead man and one of the wounded had not been identified. The 12 other people injured were Indians. The dead man was torn in half by the bomb and police were examining papers found in a briefcase near him. "We don't know if the briefcase belonged to him, if he was responsible for the explosion and what his nationality was," Mr Karan said.

Weed Out.



WHATEVER SHAPE YOUR GARDEN'S IN

Sri Lanka peace moves

Ban on Marxist front is lifted after arms deal

From Vijitha Yapa, Colombo

The Sri Lankan Government lifted its ban on the extremist Sinhala Marxist group, the Janatha Vimukti Peramuna (People's Liberation Front) yesterday soon after an agreement was signed between the Government and the organization.

The front agreed to give up 96 high-powered rifles captured from the security forces and 600 shotguns seized from civilians. It also agreed to bring an end to violence.

For its part, the Government agreed to release front suspects arrested for political offences but those charged with murder, attempted murder and violence will be tried. The details were announced at a hastily summoned press conference at the Ministry of Defence yesterday by the Minister of National Security, Mr Lalith Athulthumudali. The front was represented by an advocate, Mr K. C. Senanayake, who certified that signatures on the document agreeing to end the violence were those of Mr Rohana Wijeweera and Mr Upathissa Gamanayake, two prominent leaders of the front.

Mr Athulthumudali said the agreement gave a deadline of May 29 for the handing over of weapons to the chief priests of some Buddhist temples, who would issue receipts. The priests would in turn contact Government authorities and hand over the arms. He said this would respect the anonymity of people surrendering the arms.

The significance of the date was that it was the day before Vesak — a holy day to Buddhists which celebrates the birth, enlightenment and death of the Buddha.

But the Government has also said that if the arms were not handed over by May 29, the decision to lift the ban would be reviewed.

The front has agreed to enter the mainstream of politics, which was described by Mr Athulthumudali as a strengthening of democracy.

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accord of last year because there was a specific time frame, the number of guns were specified and the front was a recognized political party. He said he would like to have talks too with the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam, hinting that India had objected to such talks.

When told that a newspaper had reported yesterday that the Indians had reached agreement with the Tamil Tigers on the handing over of arms, he said: "I have heard those before."

He said the lifting of the ban also applied to a number of organizations linked to the front, ranging from trade unions to student bodies.

"It includes wholly owned subsidiaries like the DJV," he quipped, referring to an organization which has claimed responsibility for a number of murders of prominent people, including the chairman of the ruling United National Party last December and the de facto leader of the United Socialist Alliance and popular film actor, Mr Vijay Kumaranayake.

The front representative made it clear that the signing of the agreement did not mean the party felt differently about the Indo-Lanka accord, which has led to more than 50,000 Indian troops being brought to the Northern and Eastern Provinces of Sri Lanka in an attempt to disarm Tamil guerrillas fighting for a separate state.

They also felt the Government of President Jayewardene were traitors.

Analysts feel the change of attitude of the front may have been caused by the military wing of the party feeling more confident because of the large number of arms they stole from the security forces.

This may have led to the central command deciding to come out into the open, observers said.

Many ordinary Sri Lankans feel the agreement offers the best chance of stopping the violence in the south which led to a spate of political killings.

14 killed in Filipino rebel raid

Manila (Reuters) — About 500 communist rebels attacked a central Philippines town, triggering a series of battles with government troops in which 14 people were killed, the military said yesterday. The attack took place on Monday at Oras, on Samar island.

Meanwhile, the fugitive leader of an abortive coup, former Colonel Gregorio Honasan, said the rebels were nibbling at the foundation of the nation and had a right to overthrow the Aquino Administration as it had failed to protect the people.

Cyprus arrest

Larnaca (Reuters) — A Lebanese arrested at Larnaca Airport with a gun hidden in a radio-cassette player was remanded in custody. Police said he admitted intending to commit a crime.

Poison pills

Seattle (Reuters) — A Washington state jury here convicted a woman of killing her husband and a stranger with painkiller capsules coated with cyanide, the first murder convictions under new US product-tampering laws. She will be sentenced later.

Taxing move

Berne (AP) — Swiss car owners could be taxed on the distance they travel each year as an incentive for combating pollution, government experts say. The idea was unveiled in a government-ordered study of possible alternatives to the motor vehicle tax based on engine size.

Crew on trial

Jakarta (Reuters) — Three Australians, six Americans and a Briton accused of entering Indonesian waters illegally will be put on trial on Saturday, authorities said. Diplomats said the 10 were hunting for sunken treasure.

Beer cheer

Reykjavik (AP) — Alcoholic beer became legal in Iceland after 73 years of prohibition, and will go on sale in March next year. In 1908 Icelanders approved by referendum a ban on all alcoholic beverages which took effect in 1915.

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- May 10 1988

MPs want swift action on the Nestlé bid

MPs from all sides expressed concern about the bid for Rowntree by the Swiss company Nestlé.

Many said that it was causing uncertainty to the workforce in Rowntree factories and pressed for swift action in referring the bid to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission.

Mr Kenneth Clarke, Minister of Trade and Industry, said in answer to a private notice question that both the Nestlé bid for Rowntree and Suchard's 29.9 per cent holding were being considered in the normal way by the Director General of Fair Trading, who was responsible for advising the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry.

Question of reciprocal bid by Rowntree may be relevant in considering the bid

Lord Young of Graffham, on the question of reference to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission.

The question of whether Rowntree could make a reciprocal bid for Nestlé or Suchard could be relevant in certain circumstances when considering whether to permit the bid.

Mr Canal Gregory (York, C) said that the overwhelming view of the shareholders and employees was that Rowntree would best develop as an independent group. The offer from Nestlé in no way reflected the value of Rowntree's unique range of brands.

The Government should consider whether the Swiss bid was a fair one in terms of free competition.

The Swiss group had lowered their drawbridge and seized assets built up over many years in a dawn raid before returning to their impregnable castle. Was it reasonable to allow a predator to bid for Rowntree?

Mr Clarke said that Lord Young could not make a decision until he had the advice from the Director General of Fair Trading.

The price was not a matter for

TAKEOVERS

the commission if any reference was made, but other matters were certainly relevant and would be considered. The question of whether Rowntree could make a reciprocal bid could be relevant in certain circumstances.

In 1992, this country and other members of the EEC would become a much more attractive place for inward investment. The Government wanted to see a great deal of that coming to this country, both in terms of green-field sites and acquisitions.

There was no need to fear loss of sovereignty because Britain was the principal outward investor apart from Japan.

The Government would look at the bid on its merits as a single case. Lord Young would decide what the public interest was once he received the report of the commission.

Mr Douglas Henderson (Newcastle upon Tyne, North, Lab) said that while Mr Clarke's department had been diligently studying the City speculation, and a part of British industry was put at risk. Jobs in the North, in Newcastle, York and Castleford were needed, and it was in these places where there were danger signs.

The board of the company were beginning to think they had got to compete with some of the cuts at Nestlé. There was an acute nervousness among workers and management, and they wanted a decision. If they did not get one this week, there might be no decision to make.

Mr Clarke denied that his department had been dilatory. They were complying with the law, and the first stage was to get advice from the Director General of Fair Trading.

"There is no question of the whole thing being overturned by events," there was no danger of a fall-out. Were a controlling interest to be acquired in the meantime, if a reference to the commission were made, there would be power to require a divestment.

He understood the uncertainty among workers in merger situations. It was always bad for everyone. He did not

think that there was any immediate and obvious risk to jobs.

Mr Leon Brittan (Richmond, Yorks, C), former Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, asked if Mr Clarke agreed that, if there should be a question of divestment in the future, that would be immensely disruptive, so there was some urgency in the matter because of the share purchases taking place now.

"While the normal procedures must be operated, they can and should be expedited in this case."

Mr Clarke agreed. He said that everyone wanted the uncertainty to end as quickly as possible. Any subsequent order to divestment could be disruptive. But he was waiting for the advice of the Director General of Fair Trading. He was sure that the director appreciated the urgency of putting forward advice.

Mr Bruce Millan (Glasgow, Govan, Lab) said that there was a Rowntree factory in his constituency and apprehension there about the employment implications of any takeover. This was not investment but a straight takeover, a foreign predator trying to swallow a major British company. There should be a reference to the commission.

Mr Clarke said that he wanted a decision arrived at as quickly as possible, and that must be as quickly as the law

The Swiss group has lowered its drawbridge and seized valuable assets in a dawn raid

allowed. He did not agree with Mr Millan's broad proposition about foreign predators taking over British companies. The British economy benefited because it was open and welcoming to inward investment.

Mr Patrick Thompson (Norwich North, C) said that many of his constituents worked for Rowntree. Would Mr Clarke consider any representations about a possible reference to the commission and the asymmetry between the situation in Switzerland and the situation in this country?

Mr Clarke: We most certainly will.

Mr Malcolm Bruce, SLD spokesman on trade and industry, said that the takeover of Rowntree was not just a matter of the loss of jobs in the North but also of the loss of a corporate headquarters where regional policy demanded that corporate headquarters were retained in the regions.

Mr Geoffrey Latham (Pontefract and Castleford, Lab) said that at a meeting last night the chairman of Nestlé had failed to give any guarantee that there would be no loss of jobs.

Mr Clarke said that it should not be automatically assumed that there was a threat to jobs.

Mr Michael Heseltine (Healey, C) asked whether ministers were satisfied that the guidelines issued to the commission were now sufficient to relate to 1992.

Any revision of guidelines needed to be concerned with fairness within the market place. British companies could be acquired by Swiss companies, but it was very difficult for the reverse to take place.

Mr Clarke said that a document had recently been published on monopolies and mergers policy, but the Government was always open to proposals for revision. It was the inevitable and desirable consequence of 1992 that there would be an increase in the flow of inward investment into Britain, and they should be competing for the largest possible share of that.

Mr Tony Blair, an Opposition spokesman on trade and industry, said that, at the very least, a reference to the commission would allow pause for scrutiny.

More than 12,000 people were employed in the company. It was high time that the views of the workforce were held as much in account as those of a score of institutional power brokers in the City of London.

Mr Clarke said that a decision would have the right to demand a meeting with the company. If this demand was not met within 14 days as of right then the Secretary of State would be obliged to block the bid.

This was not outrageous. It was extremely modest and was already the policy in The Netherlands.



Mr Michael Heseltine: It is very difficult for British companies to acquire Swiss firms

Consultation demand

Bids Bill introduced

TAKEOVERS

considered bids purely for their effect on competition was far too narrow.

Unbridled takeover bids and mergers had created casino capitalism, which was good for the predator, the speculator and the insider trader, but bad for Britain, bad for the economy, bad for employment and bad for the consumer.

Expenditure on takeovers and mergers last year had been £15.4 billion and 500,000 jobs had been affected.

Investment in manufacturing industry was just less than £10 billion - still 10 per cent less than in 1979.

Something was wrong when the City could find money for takeovers and mergers but not for investment in manufacturing. A hostile bid could not take place in Switzerland, but a foreign predator could come over here and take over a very successful company in order to get into the EEC.

It wanted to buy the brand names and close the plants. It was disgraceful that the General Cinema bid for Cadbury had not been referred to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission.

Without a division, he was given permission to introduce the Bill.

It stands little chance of making further progress, however, because of lack of time.

Concern over INF delay

Mrs Thatcher said at a question time that she shared the concern at the news that the United States Senate had decided to postpone ratification of the INF treaty.

Mr George Robertson (Hamilton, Lab) had asked her to use her influence in Washington to ensure its speedy ratification.

Mrs Thatcher said that the Senate had postponed ratification in relation to US-Soviet discussions over the interpretation of inspection rights.

There was sufficient time for proper resolution of the point before the President went to Moscow.

Labour MP is impressed

A Labour MP was so impressed with the example set by the Prime Minister in gathering up the litter in St James's Park, central London, recently that he commended it to other MPs.

Mr Edward Garrett (Walsend, Lab): The last time I put a question it was about litter and she acted with great alacrity in having a photocall in St James's Park which, nationally, achieved good results.

Will she now turn her political talents to asking local authorities and members of the farming community to stop cutting verges around the countryside and to stop cutting hedges all to the same height?

Mrs Thatcher: I agree that we do not want a countryside of large prairies, devoid of the hedges we used to see.

Poll tax 'victory'

There was prolonged laughter from the Opposition benches when Mr Thomas Sackville (Bolton West, C) asked during Prime Minister's question time whether the critics of the community charge had failed to come up with anything better.

Mrs Thatcher agreed. Mr Neil Kinnock, Leader of the Opposition, said that any change was supposed to relate to the ability to pay.

Mrs Thatcher agreed. Nine million people would pay less than the flat rate. Mr Kinnock said that if that was the case, why was she having such difficulty persuading her supporters?

Mrs Thatcher: The Bill went through this House.

Speaker says 'No' to debate

The Rev Ian Paisley (North Antrim, DUP) failed to get an emergency debate on the decision of the Northern Ireland Office not to release on parole a prisoner wishing to attend his father's funeral. He said that the man only had a month left to serve before he was released on parole anyway.

The Northern Ireland Office had sat on the application for parole until this morning, when the funeral was this afternoon.

Royal Assent

The following Acts received Royal Assent: Coroners (Amendment) Bill; Public Utility Transfer and Water Charges; and Farm Land and Rural Development.

Parliament today

Commons (2.30): Questions: Trade and Industry. Debate on Opposition motion on the seamen's dispute.

Lords (2.30): Debates on employment of nurses in the NHS, on telemedicine service and on unemployment in Belfast.

Councils blamed for burden

Labour MPs protested loudly and long when the Prime Minister suggested that local authorities were responsible for the increased rent and rates burden on the elderly.

Mr Jimmy Dumasche (Glasgow, Pollok, Lab): As a result of the recent housing benefit cuts, many senior citizens in my constituency and elsewhere have been asked to pay double the previous rent and rates from overstretched resources.

Mrs Thatcher: If his constituency is in local authority housing, rent and rates are a matter for the local authority (loud and prolonged Labour protests).

Miss Joan Lester (Eccles, Lab) said that the reply had been unsympathetic and misleading.

On the question of housing benefit to local authorities, may I draw her attention to the letter in *The Times* today from a widow of 89 who worked to age 75 and whose weekly income is 85p above income support level, resulting in her housing benefit being docked by £1.25?

Mrs Thatcher: The money being spent on housing benefit is about £5.3 billion (Labour protests).

Concession announced on capital gains tax

A concession to owners of assets liable to capital gains tax was announced by Mr Peter Brooke, Paymaster General, during the third day of the committee stage of the Finance Bill.

This will enable taxpayers to choose that the gains or losses on their assets can be computed by reference to 1982 market values. The change will be made by amendments at the report stage of the Bill later in the summer.

Mr Brooke moved that the new clause to effect the rebasing of capital gains on a 1982 value.

He said that when the Government came to office in 1979, capital gains tax had been unjust and damaging. Its most inequitable feature was that it taxed inflationary gains. It was in part a tax on maintaining the real value of the taxpayer's original capital.

The Government had, for that reason, introduced taxation relief in 1982 and extended it in 1985 to give full relief for inflation effects after 1982, but at that time it had not been possible to remove the charge on the inflationary gains of the

TREASURY

1960s and 1970s because the cost was too high.

The Chancellor's careful stewardship had enabled him to tackle the problem and ideally they would now have extended indexation back to 1965, but on looking into it had found big difficulties.

It had been suggested to the Government, however, that, rather than being required to maintain pre-1982 records, some people would prefer to be

able to make an election that their gains and losses would be computed by reference to 1982. That would mean their losing the protection of special rules in the Bill, but would in some cases relieve them of a significant compliance burden.

"We have decided that there is considerable merit in these suggestions. We propose to introduce measures under which taxpayers will be able to elect that, from April 6, 1988, their gains and losses on assets acquired before 1982 should be computed by reference to 1982 market values."

New wages offer is to be made to NHS ancillary staff

Health service management will make a further offer to ancillary staff when pay negotiations resume, Mr Tony Newton, Minister for Health, said at question time.

Pay of NHS ancillary staff was a matter for negotiation in the Ancillary Staffs Whitley Council. Negotiations were adjourned until May 18. Health authorities were expected to meet general pay increases from their cash allocations and cost-improvement programmes.

Mr David Marshall (Glasgow, Shettleston, Lab) said that this was totally unsatisfactory. When would the Government give health boards sufficient funding to give ancillary workers a fair deal?

Mr Newton said that the present Government had given the ancillary workers a real-terms increase of just under 4 per cent compared with a reduction of 10 per cent under the previous Administration.

Mr Winston Griffiths (Bridgend, Lab) said that the Government should realize that

health authorities saw their employees as part of a total team committed to caring for patients. Would he treat ancillary workers in a similar way to nurses and ensure that health authorities had money to fund their pay settlement?

Mr Robin Cook, Opposition spokesman on health and social security, said that Mr Newton could not pass the buck for negotiations. The reason why the Whitley Council was adjourned was to allow the management to consult him.

In the seven years since the Clegg award, the pay of ancillary staff had fallen behind the RPI. Ancillary workers were often the same people who had suffered cuts in housing benefit. How long would Mr Newton be content to be Britain's largest employer of Britain's lowest-paid workers?

Mr Newton said that the Government would negotiate in good faith on the basis of the further offer that the management would make when negotiations resumed.

Most of Cabinet 'opposes the poll tax'

The following report of the second reading debate in the Lords on the Local Government Finance Bill appeared in later editions yesterday.

Lord Jenkins of Hillhead told his fellow peers that he could discover no members of the present Cabinet, apart from Mrs Thatcher and Mr Nicholas Ridley, the Environment Secretary, who supported the Government's poll-tax proposals.

Many other peers, including leading Conservatives, also said during the debate that the Bill is now "friendly" and added that they will attempt to change it to take account of people's ability to pay.

Lord Jenkins described the Bill, aiming to replace rates with the poll tax, or community charge, as socially unjust, geographically perverse and administratively cumbersome.

In his maiden speech, Lord Mancroft (C) said that the Bill was a logical step forward and contained nothing controversial. It ill behove the House of Lords to give the Bill anything but its wholehearted support.

Lord Carmarvon (Ind), in a maiden speech, said that, with a quarter of a century's experience in local government, he would like to congratulate the Government on being brave enough to grasp the nettle and tackle the problem of rate reform.

But he had some reservations about the unified business rate. It seemed a pity to alter the 50:50 ratio to one of 75 per cent for the Exchequer and 25 per cent locally controlled.

"I fear that a change of this nature will weaken the close ties with industry as they will feel that central rather than local government is making the final decisions."

HOUSE OF LORDS

Those who disliked the Bill or feared it owed it to the House and to their colleagues to say what they would do instead. Doing nothing was no longer an option.

Lord Chelwood (C) said that he had been told he was a rebel. He did not feel like one. It was not in his nature or upbringing. This was all his own work and it was a bit scary finding himself out in front.

The Government had lost three quarters of its majority in the vote on the Mates amendment, leaving it representing little more than one third of those who went to the polls in the last election. That should be borne in mind.

The poll tax had been dismissed in *Green Paper* in 1981 as almost certainly not a practical proposition. The Commons environment committee had recommended in 1982 that a poll tax should not be introduced. The Government had agreed.

From 1974 to 1986 the party had been committed to introducing a tax that bore a direct relationship to people's ability to pay. It was only in the past two years that there had been a complete about-face and they had been asked instead to agree to a flat-rate poll tax, which was apparently now the answer to the maiden's prayer.

"The Bill cocks a snook at public opinion. It has in-built inequities. It departs from centuries of precedents by taking too little account of ability to pay."

"It is complex to such an extent that many people will not understand it. I think it is inconsistent with some of the

Conservative principles on which I was brought up. I beg the Government to take it away, think about it and then bring it back again."

Lord Wyatt of Woodford (Ind) congratulated the Government on working out the fairest scheme that could have been devised.

Viscountess Wadsworth (C) said that the Government had shown courage in bringing in a Bill, which was open to much attack on largely specious grounds.

Lord Wilson of Langside (SDP) said that it was a pity that the House was virtually powerless to send the Bill back and to tell the Government to try again.

Lord Pym (C) said that there were difficulties of a fundamental nature and most could not be corrected by amendments. But the defect that could be limited, or at least ameliorated, was that affecting those on small, fixed incomes and "just above the line" for assistance. It seemed wholly appropriate for the House to address that issue.

Lord Jay (Lab) said this was the most unfair tax introduced for many years. At any income levels, the poorer one was, the more heavily one would be taxed.

Lord Carr of Hadley (C), a former Cabinet minister, said that he felt most strongly that the Government must think again about modifying the impact of the community charge. It was not fair and was not seen to be fair by the public at large, including the great majority who voted Conservative.

The Conservatives' 1974 manifesto, announced by Mrs Thatcher, who was the shadow environment secretary, pledged

to abolish rates and replace them by taxes more broadly based, related to people's ability to pay.

"This ability to pay is sacred and I cannot get away from it." It hurt him particularly that the Government in this and other Bills was centralizing power.

Lord Ellenborough, president of the National Union of Ratepayers, said that it might be wise to devise at the very least some form of banded community charge.

"The Government has several options, but I fear that to do nothing could prove disastrous."

Lord Rippon of Exham (C), president of the Association of District Councils, said that it would be quite wrong to have a banded charge.

He did not believe this Bill would be the best word on the subject of local finance. He doubted very much whether the community charge would be sufficient a base for local government revenue.

Lord Bruce-Gardyne (C) said that this proposed change, for all the criticism, must represent a move towards greater responsibility in local government.

While manifesto commitments were certainly not holy writ, if they were to be effectively demolished or changed out of recognition, that was a task that perhaps was more suitably performed by the elected House rather than the non-elected House.

Lord Hainworth (SDP): Once again, I see a spectrum of a divided nation with the hate and envy it produces. This Government has done nothing to bring the nation together. This legislation is divisive, even if it has some merits.

HIV compulsory screening rejected

A suggestion that HIV screening should be made compulsory was dismissed by Mr Tony Newton, Minister of Health, during question time in the Commons.

Asked by Mr Christopher Butler (Warrington South, C) if the Government was satisfied with its policy of voluntary testing, Mr Newton said that the Government had given extensive publicity to the availability of testing and made clear in its information material that people

worried about being infected should seek expert advice.

If there were further steps required the Government would be prepared to consider them.

Mr Nicholas Bonsor (Upminster, C) asked if the Government would consider compulsory testing, for instance in the armed forces and in prisons.

Mr Newton said that the Government had not yet decided if it was right to go down the path of compulsory testing.

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SPECTRUM

The Docklands of the Caesars

GRAHAM WOOD

The latest piece of Roman London to emerge from the mud could be the most significant archaeological find for years — yet may be lost to new building. Simon Tait reports

Under the bemused gaze of old people from nearby sheltered houses, John Dillon and his archaeological team spray water on ancient oak to prevent it from crumbling to dust, and gingerly pick out specks of mud with tiny trowels.

The team is discussing what their discovery might have looked like. "Probably something like a large garden shed," Dillon suggests. His boss, Harvey Sheldon, Greater London's archaeology officer, agrees, then adds inconspicuously: "It's simply the most fantastic thing I've ever seen."

The group now knows that the wooden structure, 15ft by at least 35ft, was probably a warehouse, and thus the first indication that the Southwark side of the Roman Thames was an international commercial port before AD 200.

The warehouse was found over the Easter weekend by a team of Museum of London archaeologists led by Sheldon. Somehow, they contained their excitement and kept the discovery a secret. This week, with its significance confirmed, they invited *The Times* to make the find public.

Dr Timothy Potter, the British Museum's Romano-British curator and an international authority, is ecstatic about the discovery. He says he has never seen anything like it. "It is terribly important. To find a Second Century warehouse, which I am sure it is, with the floors as perfectly preserved as any modern building, it is quite extraordinary. We now know there were a lot of Roman settlements in the Southwark area, and I would think that you're getting a whole series of warehouses. It is emerging as a sort of Docklands of Roman times."

The building was constructed using the finest carpentry skills: no nails have been found. The floor, made from great oak sheets, has been preserved, along with a ramp down which barrels would have been rolled to just below ground level, where they could be kept cool. The floor is surrounded by the sloping remains of wooden walls, with mortise-and-tenon joints still intact.

Potter enthused: "The simple fact is that we need to know more, more. When you've got a site of preservation like that, it offers an exceptional chance of answering a lot of long-posed questions."

Those questions may have to remain unanswered, however, for not only are contractors due to begin work on the site on Monday, preparing it for a £7 million

London Borough of Southwark development, but English Heritage, statutory custodians of the nation's archaeological work, have refused to fund any further research.

"We are living on borrowed time," Sheldon says. "Our licence to the site expired on March 31, and we were given an extension to the end of April. Our money ran out at the end of March. We've got no rights on the site, they could chuck us off any day."

He needs \$40,000 and four weeks to remove the huge oak timbers and take them to tanks, just as the Tudor flagship Mary Rose was. From there, they will go to museum laboratories.

Southwark inherited the land from the GLC and has earmarked it for 74 more sheltered homes. Under the rules of this bequest, the borough must hand the site to the London Residuary Body if it is not developed by the end of this financial year. To meet the building deadline, clearance must start next week.

The area, known as the Courage site because of the brewery that

stood there until recently, has been a treasure trove of archaeological findings since digging began in 1983. A Roman stone building, possibly of civic importance, was found and recorded three years ago, before being completely destroyed. Next to the warehouse, an industrial plot with traces of more timber buildings, including a blacksmith's, has been uncovered. A third area, on which digging has yet to begin but which must be clear of archaeologists by June 28, hides more Roman buildings, and possibly part of the Roman road to a second Roman river-crossing, between Lambeth and Westminster.

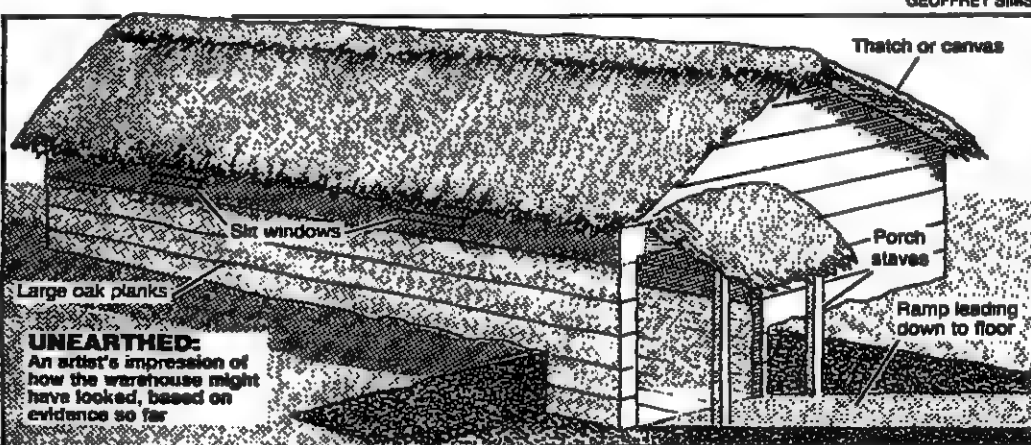
"Excavations of the Courage site have been going on for some time now," says Victor Belcher, head of the survey branch of English Heritage's London division. "English Heritage has given something like £250,000. There comes a point where we have to say there are other demands on our resources."

He says the archaeologists stuck to the rules and left the site at the end of March, the wooden warehouse might never have been found. The site had been free for six months before English Heritage found £26,000 to allow work to proceed in January, money which had to be spent by the end of the financial year.

Sheldon says: "It is true that more than £200,000 has been spent on the site, but £150,000 of that came from the GLC."



Rich seam of history: John Dillon at the Southwark site, behind him the remains of the second-century Roman warehouse. On Monday, developers are due to start work



The site has been examined under the auspices of the London Archaeology Service (set up in 1983 by the GLC), the Museum of London, and the Department of the Environment. When the GLC was abolished in 1986, responsibility for funding the service was handed over to English Heritage.

"Our attitude is quite clear and consistent," Belcher says. "We lay down the law to private developers and say that when they undertake a development with archaeological implications, they have to recognize their responsibility." Rate-capped Southwark,

however, pleads poverty, and a £500 million repair bill on existing property.

"Where local authorities are concerned, it is incumbent on them," insisted Belcher. "It is fundamentally Southwark's responsibility. We have a limited purse to rescue archaeology which has to be nationwide. We have a small reserve and will look at whether it is possible to help out of that reserve. But if we can help, something else has to be sacrificed. So many things are turning up of the same importance."

Sheldon, however, disputes that

there is no money available: "I know that English Heritage has about £60,000 to fund digs in London for this year, and none of that has been allocated."

He points to other important sites, such as Bermondsey Abbey, less than a mile away, and the very important 11th century Cluniac abbey, for which excavation money has run out. That site must be abandoned at the end of this month to vandals and treasure hunters with metal detectors.

"Behind it is the whole question of how you fund public sites," Sheldon says. "It's a major

problem because there is no provision in law for the funding of publicly developed sites unless they're scheduled as monuments or are one of the five designated sites under the Archaeological Act, 1979 — both decided on by the Department of Environment on advice from English Heritage."

The Government has just turned down the House of Commons Select Committee's recommendation that public redevelopment should have archaeology built into them. It is very serious, and partly cloaked by the relative

ease of getting money for private sector developments.

Meanwhile, he has to assess the importance of the warehouse find. "It survived because it has been buried in waterlogged conditions. It was sealed in from the bacteria which would have destroyed it, a bit like a sunken ship."

"It's the first time we have had clear indications *in-situ* of buildings on the waterfront, the first clear indications of trading. It looks as though we have got a harbouring area, and the best opportunity of actually examining whether we have a large number of these, where the waterfronts were, and whether they date throughout the period, or are confined to the earlier Roman centuries."

In the context of the recent acclaimed Guildhall amphitheatre find, Dr Potter adds: "We've got a lot of amphitheatres in Britain, and huge numbers in the world, but we haven't got wooden warehouses where all the wood is beautifully preserved. They just don't exist — one find is unique, the other is of a well-known class of monument."

"Somehow resources must be found to examine the warehouse site properly."

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I·N·G·E·N·U·I·T·Y Round Nine

● Ingenuity is a general knowledge competition being played over 18 days, with 10 questions a day. The authors of the first six correct entries to be opened at the end of the competition will each receive a set of the 1988 Encyclopaedia Britannica, in a blue Constitution binding, worth £2,280.

● The questions vary in difficulty. The answer to each question is a single

1. Port in the north built by soap and philanthropy.
2. Roman governor of Judaea who kept Paul in custody for two years.
3. Event that shook Colchester in 1884 and Swansea in 1906.
4. Profession of Toscanini's son-in-law, Vladimir.
5. S.I. unit of magnetic flux density.

word or name — but the number of letters in the answers do NOT correspond with the number of boxes — except for the longest of them.

● To some you may know the answers but mostly you will have to use an encyclopaedia and other reference books to ferret them out.

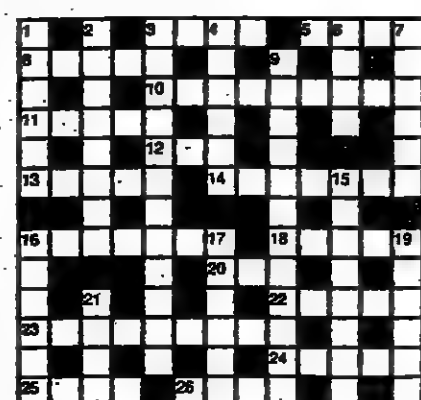
● Cut out this coupon and keep it until the end of the contest

6. Familiar name of the painter Paolo di Dono.
7. Instrument known in Scottish Gaelic as a clarsach.
8. English name of the plant family that includes Goldilocks, Travellers Joy, and Crowfoot.
9. Bluebeard's last wife, or else Mohammed's daughter.
10. Part of the atmosphere that is fixed by the Haber and Serpek processes.

CONCISE CROSSWORD NO 1561

ACROSS
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5 Court protegee (4)
8 Suppress (5)
10 Copy (9)
11 Prospero slave spirit (5)
12 Cornet, waltz (3)
13 Abolitionist 3-1
14 Grant aid (7)
16 Overstep (7)
18 Poppy seed sandwich (5)
20 Place (3)
22 Raise up (5)
23 Clear from guilt (9)
24 Distributor arm (5)
25 Chafin (4)
26 Oh dear! (4)

DOWN
1 Turbulent wind (6)
2 Tea container (8)
3 Toads poet (6,6)
4 Deion-flavour herb (6)
6 Groggily (4)



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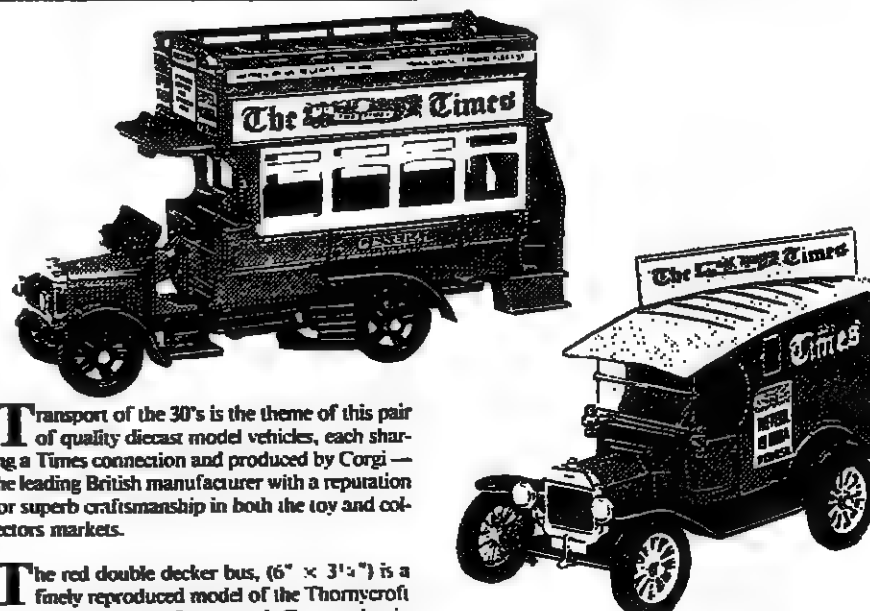
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TOMORROW



Has the Royal Academy's Summer Exhibition lost its way? Sarah Jane Checkland looks at changing tastes in a national institution

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TIMES DIARY

ALAN COREN

I beseech you in the bowels of Thurbur to go to the New York retrospective at the V & A. Other boons apart, it is a pleasure to hear public chortling — especially at an art exhibition, where the more typical ambient noise is either a taut silence punctuated by tentative ferns and haws (if they have) the confident braying of second-hand aperçus.

In fact, it is just such discomforts and pretensions which the New York cartoonists have been so hilariously assiduous in addressing these 60 years past. Its canny founder, Harold Ross, pulled his neatest trick of all in making the very audience at which the magazine was targeted the target for the magazine's satirical shafts. This policy compelled the well-heeled but socially and intellectually insecure New Yorker to buy a paper which laughed at him, so that by buying it he could demonstrate that he wasn't insecure at all and was buying it to laugh at those who were.

And given the even greater self-doubts which pululated in the vast continental hinterland beyond the Hudson River — wickedly pinpointed in Saul Steinberg's archetypal New Yorker cover portraying the USA as 99 per cent Manhattan and 1 per cent redneck boondock — it was not long before the magazine became an essential badge of sophistication thousands of miles from West 43rd Street. No other has generated so global a reputation from so parochial a base: even if the dentists of Minneapolis and the Seattle bankers never opened it, the New Yorker lay on their domestic coffee-tables and corporate executives proclaiming their cosmopolitan chic.

Sadly, it is no longer the power it was, but seeking to explain the decline by speculating that it might not be as good as it was is to offer less than half an answer. Something has gone out of the culture which nourished the classic cartoons currently shimmering on the V & A walls, and what is a magazine to do if its gro-bag is depleted of phosphates? A dreariness has settled on the United States, a smug sobriety, brows are worn low and the hearts under the grey flannel suits beat to a dull suburban thud. Who knows, given that the only reading requirement of the most beloved president in American history seems to be in-depth coverage of what the stars foretell, perhaps the New Yorker's own fortunes would revive if it started running horoscopes.



'I understand the Queen's sending a singing telegram'

Perhaps I ought to start reading horoscopes. Had astrology been my habit, the words "Watch out on Monday for a tall dark dog. It will leap up at you on the corner of Edgware Road and Sussex Gardens and eat your cheeseburger" would have alerted me to an unpleasantness which, if it could not have been avoided — the sign of the Crab is not mocked — could at least have been mitigated. I could, for example, and without smudging destiny's blueprint, have bought two cheeseburgers and eaten one of them before I got to the fateful intersection.

Not being a street-eater (the last time I attempted it I was caned for bringing my blazer into disrepute, and this trauma threaded itself inextricably into my wool), I was carrying the boxed bus back to my office when it disappeared from my hand. I leapt, and looked down — though not far down, since the thing for which I had unwittingly bought lunch was that rare hybrid, part Irish wolfhound, part Suffolk Punch. There seemed little point in remonstrating with it: there was in its yellow eye something which suggested not only that it had heard all the arguments a reasonable person might offer it in these circumstances, but also that the cheeseburger had done little more than whet its appetite for a nice piece of shin.

So I generously allowed it to lope away. It was only after it had gone that I realized that it was not unwrapped the delicacy, it had wolfed — possibly literally; you would have to ask Crut's — both the polystyrene container and the marginally-less-than polystyrene pattie in a single rabid chomp.

Which observation, a nano-second later, illuminated a bulb above my head — cartooning permeates today's column — which threw a shaft of light so lateral that Edward de Bono himself could have grown warm in its fluorescent glow. For it had suddenly occurred to me that man's best efforts to rid himself of that exponentially burgeoning urban blight, non-biodegradable junkfood packaging, had all been directed at persuading those who had finished the edible to bin the inedible — but oaf nature being what it is, that will never happen. Therefore, what the Prime Minister's currently flummoxed litter unit should concentrate on is making that edible polystyrene already exists. It is called the prawn cracker. And prawn crackers, I discover, are moulded from vast sheets of material of which the main constituent — having nothing more to do with prawn than a brief contact, late on in its extrusion process, with a sort of crustacean essence — is in limitless supply.

Clearly, prawn boxes are the answer, and an answer, moreover, which I offer gratis to Mr John Lee, MP for Pendle and harassed Litter Tank Supremo, in return for nothing more than a minor gong in the next list. And, of course, a bone for the dog.

The row over the BBC and ITV documentaries on the Gibraltar shootings has strengthened calls for tighter regulation of television — by giving the proposed Broadcasting Standards Council the power to preview and veto programmes. These calls should be resisted.

Before arguing that this extension of its powers is dangerous, it is worth rehearsing why such a council is in principle to be welcomed. The broadcasting industry does need to be subject to regulatory oversight of a kind different from that applied to most other industries. In this age when laissez-faire ideologies are fashionable, it is tempting to allow the content of channels to be dictated only by the wishes of viewers and advertisers. Perhaps the extreme case of this is the approach lately taken by America's broadcasting regulator, the Federal Communications Commission. Its head said that a television set should be thought of as nothing more than "a toaster with pictures", since we let free market forces determine the design of kitchen appliances, we can let them determine what is shown on TV.

That philosophy is too simple. Broadcasting plays a role not only in the economic realm but also in two others — politics and culture. It is an economic force because it is a multi-billion

pound industry, a big export earner and the major source of commercial entertainment. It plays an important political role because it is the medium through which most voters obtain information about current affairs. It is a significant cultural and social force for no more subtle reason than that in the average home it is on for more than five hours a day.

The toaster-with-pictures philosophy pays too much homage to its economic role. The recent adoption of that approach in the US has resulted in a deterioration of current affairs coverage, news being pushed off prime time by commercially more attractive shows. The news programmes which remain are steering away from difficult topics in favour of more entertaining "human interest" stories, under commercial pressure from the management of the channels — all three main national networks, ABC, CBS and NBC, are now owned by industrial conglomerates rather than traditional media companies.

The respected head of news at one network resigned in disgust over this process of trivialization, saying: "If we have a story on the budget deficit and a story on a three-legged sheep, we choose the three-legged sheep."

Setting standards for the quantity and quality of journalistic coverage is, then, a positive contribution which a regulatory institution can make — and which, indeed, the IBA and BBC already do. Another is to ensure that economic interests do not stifle the potential for television to fulfil its cultural role. There is much evidence that the principle of consumer sovereignty does not cope adequately with matters of taste or artistic development. Lay citizens seem intuitively to understand what the more extreme economic ideologies do not, namely that a world in which artistic production is dictated only by consumers' choices (including their own) may not be one in which they would wish to live and raise their families.

There are activities which

people support, in the words of Professor Alan Peacock, "in their capacity as citizens and voters but not as consumers". That is why we do not see voter rebellion against subsidy of Shakespeare productions or regional arts festivals.

With all these justifications for broadcasting regulation, why prevent the new Broadcasting Standards Council from pre-vetting programmes? The answer is that there is a world of difference between allowing an institution to influence the overall mixture and quality of programming and allowing it to inspect and veto an individual item. The former is a legitimate function which makes up for the deficiencies of a free market in the realms of politics and culture; the latter is a step toward centralized control over the means of communication.

Of course the decision to allow programmes to go on the air must be taken by someone — so better, some would argue, to have them taken by a central institution applying consistent

principles across all channels than leaving them to the whim of those in the BBC, the IBA or individual television companies.

But history has taught that the only sure protection against political abuse of the media is pluralism and free speech. It is better to have the media controlled inconsistently by many institutions than consistently by one — however well intentioned its first appointed head. And, above all, there must be no power of pre-vetting — in the jargon of the United States, where this freedom is most jealously guarded, no "prior restraint".

If anything, control over broadcast transmissions is already too centralized: vetting by individual television companies would be more consistent with the principle of pluralism than vetting by the IBA (though the latter has not, it must be said, muzzled politically controversial programmes; and it acted nobly in the case of the Gibraltar screenings). Moving this power to a yet more centralized forum,

covering all of broadcasting, would be a retrograde step that would violate the principle of pluralism totally. Without pre-vetting, unsuitable programmes will sometimes slip through the net. That is a small price to pay. A single programme will not corrupt a nation or upset the democratic process — but it might provide a useful outlet for artistic innovation or a useful check on a government's excesses.

It is remarkable by how many centuries our attitude to censoring political views on the broadcast media trails behind our attitudes to the same issue in the case of print. Why did the Foreign Secretary try to persuade the IBA to stop transmission of *Death on the Rock* while not attempting to keep the same material out of the newspapers? It is because we have learned to respect Milton's classic defence of free speech, the *Areopagitica*, as it applies to newspapers but are having to start the process from scratch in the case of television. Parliament ended pre-publication censorship of the press in 1694; it would be a shame if it created a new censoring body for broadcasting in 1988.

The author, a partner in management consultants Booz Allen & Hamilton, is the author of several recent studies on the future of broadcasting.

Charles Jonscher warns against centralized vetting of TV

Screening we must resist

Conor Cruise O'Brien

American lessons for Labour

In the United States the Democratic Party, which seemed down and out through the first half of the present decade, has been making a comeback since 1986. Mr Kincock, after his party's gains in last week's district council elections, believes that Labour is staging a similar comeback in 1988.

This seems an appropriate moment to look at some of the resemblances, and differences, between the Democrats and Labour today. The balance may have a bearing on the chances of a Labour recovery.

The resemblances are sufficiently strong for a Democratic presidential candidate this year to have based much of his campaign on unattributed chunks from old speeches by Neil Kincock. True, this practice blew up in Joe Biden's face, and destroyed his chances. But this was because of plagiarism and not because Kincock's ideas were felt to be unacceptable to potential Democratic voters. On the contrary, the kind of thing Kincock says — when following his personal inclinations — is very much the kind of thing mainstream Democrats like to hear.

The social composition of the Democratic constituency is about as close to that of Labour as the differences between the two countries and political systems will permit. It includes trade unionists, lower middle class people, the poor, blacks and intellectuals. Both may also be defined by those they do not include, or include only in insignificant numbers: the affluent and those who strongly aspire to becoming affluent, racists and super-patriots.

And both have a "mainstream" preoccupied with winning national elections and also "ginger groups" preoccupied with committing the party on issues, even when the commitment is a certain electoral loser.

The differences are a little less obvious, but probably more

relevant to the relative prospects of recovery. Labour is much more burdened by ideological and institutional commitments. The Democratic Party, as a party, has virtually no ideology, though its platform is influenced by various groups within it institutionally, it does not willingly do anything that goes against the interests of trade unions, but is not the creature of the trade unions and is not bound by its own constitution, to do their bidding.

Labour, on the other hand, is fully committed, at least verbally, to an ideology — socialism — in which very few people, including its leaders, any longer truly believe. Yet socialism won't go away because there are people in the Labour Party who still really believe in it. This ideological difference is likely to make it hard for Labour to do as well as the Democrats for the rest of the century.

The institutional difference is perhaps an even worse handicap for Labour. As an institution the Labour Party is a monstrosity of an exquisitely esoteric kind. The party's internal reforms, after 1979, were supposed to be democratic in the strange sense that they tended to take power away from the parliamentary party — persons elected by the actual people — and give it to the annual conference which represents — up to a point — the party membership; a tiny minority of the national electorate. But actually, the conference is controlled by an even tinier minority: the trade union bosses, who can deliver the block votes of their membership.

These institutional and ideological factors often collide but it seems that, whether they collide or combine, they tend to put voters off in national elections. If you vote for a party, enabling it to govern the country, you like to think that it will feel responsible to the voters in general and not



primarily to specialized and privileged groups — notably trade union bosses, whom voters don't trust because they know some of them all too well. Nor do many voters trust, or even understand, the theoretical system that Labour offers.

There are also differences as well as similarities between Labour and the Democrats on nationalism — patriotism, if you prefer — in which both parties have been found by their opponents to be deficient. The Democrats, indeed, have been assailed on that issue more recently and more relentlessly than Labour has been. The Zinoviev Letter

antedated McCarthyism by a generation, and McCarthyism — under other names — is still a force in electoral politics in America.

Yet the Democrats, unlike Labour, are doing little or nothing that might appear to warrant the dire suspicions fostered by their enemies. For example they are not committed — not by a million miles — to the unilateral nuclear disarmament of the United States.

The difference in point of ideology reinforces the perceived difference in point of nationalism. Nobody can know what socialism means after a variety

of Labour spokesmen have finished expounding it. But we know, pretty well, what Arthur Scargill means by it. Scargill is in the habit of referring approvingly to "the socialist countries", by which he means the Soviet Union and its satellites. So when Scargill appears determined that Britain should become a socialist country he runs the risk of being misunderstood, to put it mildly.

Here a comparison between Scargill and Jesse Jackson may be instructive. Jackson occupies a position on the left of the Democratic Party similar to Scargill's position on the left of the Labour movement. Both

have powerful personalities, spell-binders among their faithful. And Jackson, as recently as 1984, used to carry on in ways which were similar, but not identical, to those of Scargill. Jackson was seen in those days to embrace Yasser Arafat and Fidel Castro; both perceived by many Americans as enemies of the US. But that was 1984. The Jesse Jackson of 1988 is no longer going on like that.

I heard Jesse Jackson speak in Albany during the New York primary. In terms of appealing to American nationalist feeling, you could close your eyes and think you were listening to Ronald Reagan. Three times, in the course of a short speech, Jackson referred to "faith in America," with that special little throb or quiver in the voice, very similar to that which affects Reagan whenever, as so often, he invokes that particular sacred concept. No similar conversion is to be expected in the case of Arthur Scargill.

Kincock, Hattersley, Bryan Gould and others are trying to make the Labour Party less unlike the Democrats than it is now. Those council elections suggest they are having some degree of success. But it seems that an awful lot of heavy ideological and institutional furniture must be moved out of the way before Labour can again win a national election.

At any rate, for the present, the Democrats are doing very much better than Labour. Already they control both Houses of Congress. If America's political system were the same as Britain's, it would already have a Democratic administration. And if things keep as fine for the Democrats as they look at present, there should be a Democratic president, as well as a Democratic Congress, after the November election.

Labour should listen and learn from this example.

Commentary • DIGBY ANDERSON

Summer summons

At first I thought it was a bypass or a nuclear waste dump because I kept overhearing anxious questions about whether "we are going to have one." The woman in the shoe repairer's was more explicit. "Well," she inquired accusingly of the man tying tickets on a pair of ladies' pink sandals, "will there be a summer this year?" He rather apologetically mumbled that he hoped so.

Outside the greengrocer's a customer asked, more cryptically, "Are we going to be lucky, this year? Do you think we'll get one?" And a long conversation started about when we last had one, how they used to begin and end earlier and how marvellous it was when we had one almost every year.

Summer seems to be discussed entirely as if it were something which happened, or more often, didn't happen to people, something quite outside popular control, a product of the Almighty, the Gulf Stream, Chernobyl, the weatherman or chance. This spineless fatalism is quite new and the memory of the fatalists incorrect: up to the end of the Fifties there was a summer not nearly every year but every year without fail. It happened because people went to a great deal of trouble to make it happen.

The woolly dressing gown gave way to silk. Without a glance at the sky, respectable ladies, sure in the faith that it was summer and versed in the obligations of that faith, changed their gloves, handbags and even their curtains. The front doors all suddenly looked like deck chairs as striped curtains were hung against them to stop the sun, whether there was any sun or not, blistering the paintwork.

Every day, regardless of the forecast on the wireless, the shopkeepers in their linen jackets emerged to pull down their blinds with boating hooks. Children obediently stopped having coughs: whatever they had, if it was in the summer, it wasn't a cough. This was all the more remarkable since not only had their warm clothes been snatched away but the fireplace had been cleaned, Zeebricit, its opening stuffed with paper and an arrangement placed in front.

Even Mr Fisher's cat, a huge tabby who slept all day on a tin

of Bourbon biscuits, knew it was summer and conformed. When Mr Fisher put on his linen jacket, Bourbon obediently started to moult. So did all other respectable cats. They kept it up till mid-September when they all had fleas for a week then grew their fur again ready for the "unexpected" heatwave in early October, the winter.

Porridge was axed. In came Shredded Wheat. Undaunted by rain and even less, everybody ate, ghastly overdone cold lamb with lumpy mashed potato, half a tomato, two lettuce leaves, all topped with salad cream and beetroot. It was summer and in summer one had salads. One also swam in icy school swimming pools. Football (for the lower classes) and rugby or hockey (for the middle) were totally suppressed and replaced by cricket and rounders. Afterwards, there was that powdered lemonade or, for older persons, shandy. The things of winter, the footballs, cider-downs, woolly underpants, cocoa and the rest, weren't just removed: they were hidden. Whole classes of goods were similarly removed from the shops. "A hot water bottle, Madam? In summer?"

There was no waiting around hoping summer might happen, hoping one might be given it. Human effort made it and custom and manners made it seem as natural and as inevitable as a season. One wonders how much of the nostalgia for yesterday's summer is for the weather and how much for the collective society which went with it, or indeed so often, against it.

The author is Director of The Social Affairs Unit.

SCIENCE REPORT

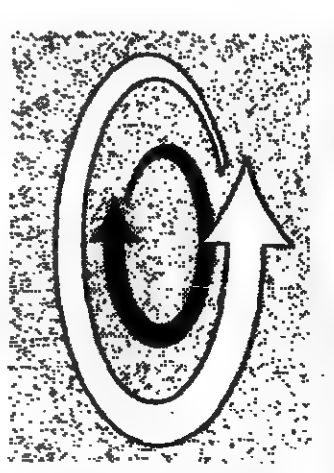
Captive galaxy

The astonishing observation of a galaxy whose central region is spinning rapidly in a direction opposite to that of its main body has been reported by two astronomers based at the US Space Telescope Science Institute near Baltimore.

The observers say the galaxy was probably formed by the merger of two pre-existing galaxies, and that a search for other such objects may show how often galaxies collide with one another.

The galaxy is known by its catalogue number, IC 1459, and is most easily recognized by its output of radio waves. It is a giant elliptical galaxy, probably containing many more stars than does the Milky Way (which has 100,000 million million).

Three years ago, the galaxy was found to be accompanied by faint wispy-like structures in its outer regions. Martin Franx (originally from Sterre wacht Leiden in the Netherlands) and Garth D. Illingworth described in last month's *Astrophysical Journal Letters* how their striking results compelled them to report their measurements on IC 1459 in advance of a more extensive survey they have undertaken.



central region some 2,000 light years across.

Although IC 1459 is by no means one of the most distant galaxies of the Universe, it is too far away for individual stars in the galaxy to be identified even with the powerful telescopes at the Cerro Tololo Inter-American Observatory and the European Southern Observatory, both in the Chilean Andes.

The rotation of the galaxy has instead been measured by records of the spectral light emitted from different regions of its surface, which provide a measure of rotational velocity because of the way in which the wavelength of a known spectral line is shifted towards the red or blue if its source star is moving away from or towards the Earth. Measurements of galactic rotation based on the observation of separate stars have so far been

possible only for a handful of the nearest galaxies.

The finding that so surprises Franx and Illingworth is that the rotational velocity in the outer regions of the galaxy amounts to an average of 25 miles a second, about the shortest of the diameters of the ellipse, and that the rotational velocity within 2,000 light years of the centre is almost four times as much (105 miles a second) in the opposite direction but about the same axis to within 15 degrees.

An even more striking feature of the galaxy is that the cloud of electrically ionized gas with which it is filled appears also to be rotating with the main body of the stars, and in the same direction, even in the central regions where the stars, on average, are moving in the wrong direction.

The simplest explanation, that the central core of IC 1459 is a smaller galaxy which has fallen into the centre of a pre-existing elliptical galaxy, seems to be inconsistent with the large velocities at the centre. Franx and Illingworth believe it more likely that the composite galaxy has been formed first by the capture, and then the tidal disruption, of a smaller galaxy. The wispy structure seen three years ago suggests galactic capture.

Whatever the explanation, there is bound now to be a search for similar phenomena, as well as a more detailed study of IC 1459 itself.

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ROYAL HOMECOMING

To welcome the Queen home from her visit to her kingdom of Australia in its bicentennial year is no empty formality. It was not only a long and arduous tour in which the Queen and Duke of Edinburgh have covered thousands of miles, and met large numbers of people. It has also taken place at a time in Australia's history which is significant for more than a celebration of 200 years existence as a nation.

In the rapid development of Australia in recent decades and with an increased proportion of its inhabitants coming from non-British origins, questions have hung over Australia's monarchy, its constitutional arrangements more generally and its residual ties of sentiment with Britain.

The Queen's position as formal head of state, acting through a governor-general, creates no formal tie with Britain. Yet the idea of a non-resident head of state is disliked by those who are suspicious of emotional links to this country just as it is cherished by the many more who value the ties with the islands from which they or their ancestors came and the monarchy which symbolizes this connection.

In recent years, republicanism had seemed to be on the increase. It was given a boost by the constitutional crisis of 1975 when the Governor-General, Sir John Kerr, used the Crown's powers to resolve a prolonged deadlock between the Senate, which had persistently blocked the Labour Government's money Bills, and the House of Representatives. For the first time in Australian history, the Governor-General had dismissed a Prime Minister, the Labour Mr Gough Whitlam, and had called a general election.

The Queen was not personally involved in this action, though she was kept informed, and the Governor-General had acted with constitutional propriety in dissolving Parliament when a prime minister who was unable to obtain the supply necessary for carrying on the Government failed to ask for a dissolution.

Moreover, the Australian Senate which is

specifically entitled to reject or delay money Bills, though not to initiate them, has a special position in representing the sovereign states of the Australian federation. Its status is not that of the non-elected British House of Lords.

The massive defeat of Mr Whitlam at the ensuing election made it quite clear that the overwhelming majority of Australians accepted the constitutional propriety of the Governor-General's action. Even so, the crisis was a spur to republican sentiment, and Mr Hawke, the present Labour Prime Minister, came to office later with a reputation for republicanism. This has diminished as sharply as has republican sentiment more widely. The Queen's visit has caught a moderating tide and has helped to encourage it.

The questions about their future constitution which the Australian people are to be asked in a referendum will not include any proposal to cut the ties with the monarchy or, as had seemed likely until recently, even to diminish its formal powers. Though the Senate's powers are at issue, the Government's plan to abolish the royal veto on legislation and to curb the Governor-General's power to act without Cabinet advice has been dropped.

In any case it is not in constitutional provisions that the principal value of the Queen's role in Australia lies. The Crown keeps alive the special ties of kinship, history and parliamentary tradition which bind together Britain and the older nations of the Commonwealth. The British and Australian majorities value those ties which have been forged in war and peace.

The Queen, as usual, has tirelessly performed her duty with selflessness, charm, good-humour and dedication, symbolizing the humanity that must always be discernible in successful democratic government and in relations between peoples. She is too seldom thanked for what she so unostentatiously does and this is a moment to thank her as well as to welcome her home.

THE SENATE REGRETS

Before discussing the next arms control treaty at their meeting in Geneva today, the foreign secretaries of the superpowers will have first to sort out the last one. The agenda for Mr George Shultz and Mr Eduard Shevardnadze has had to be adjusted following this week's objection by the Senate to ambiguities in the INF agreement. This caution shown by Congress is commendable. Superpower relations can only benefit from it.

The Intermediate Nuclear Forces treaty, which was signed at the Washington summit last December, concerns the withdrawal from Europe of all nuclear land-based missiles with a range of between 300 and just over 3,000 miles. It was accompanied by a comprehensive package of verification measures, designed to inhibit, as far as possible, all cheating. It is the interpretation of these verification clauses that has caused the problem.

The Soviet Union is saying, for example, that the Americans should be content with on-site inspection only of those vehicles and containers big enough to house a complete missile. The Americans insist that they should be able to probe canisters which can take a single rocket stage as well.

The Soviet side also wants to retain the right to decide which buildings the Americans can go into. The Americans insist on general freedom of entry. A third difficulty concerns the future modernization of INF weapons, with the United States anxious to ensure that these do not reappear with "futuristic" warheads.

A serious delay in ratifying the INF treaty

would certainly risk embarrassing the White House; the Moscow summit is less than three weeks away and the end of Mr Reagan's presidency draws nigh. It might renew criticism of his Administration from within Europe and could revive the cause of unilateral disarmament. It would inevitably inflict some damage on superpower relations.

But those are risks which must be faced. The experience of the Salt 1 and Salt 2 treaties has confirmed that untidy drafting can lead only to endless bickering and mistrust. A weak or one-sided agreement is almost literally worse than useless. To sacrifice long-term security for short-term political expediency would be a poor way to end this presidency.

The summit is expected to produce a final statement which will settle at least two issues in contention — over mobile ground-launched missiles and air-launched Cruise missiles. But it will now almost certainly fail to achieve a treaty dealing with strategic arms reductions. When verification of the INF treaty, a far simpler affair than Start, cannot be agreed to the satisfaction of both sides, the prospects for further progress here are dim.

The latest Soviet obstinacy is more likely to be an attempt by the Russian military to squeeze the last possible advantage from the treaty than to be a sign directed from the Kremlin. It is not unreasonable, therefore, to hope that Messrs Shultz and Shevardnadze will be able to sort out the problem in Geneva this week. By indicating its refusal to be bamboozled, the Senate will have delivered a useful message to Moscow.

OLD PARTIES FOR POLAND

As the Polish Parliament today debates a Bill giving the Government tough powers to restructure the economy and prevent labour unrest, the country remains dominated by a mood of pessimism. Many of its people now realize that massive reform and restructuring are needed if the country is to be rescued from its appalling economic condition. They are not prepared for reform under their current regime.

The signs of decay are everywhere: not merely in real wages, eroded by inflation and the shortage of goods and services, but in health, housing, and environmental deterioration. The Government itself proclaims the urgent need for change, and has committed itself to *perestroika*. But the Communist system has so paralysed Poland that any effective restructuring is going to lead to dislocation and suffering on a massive scale.

The linchpins of the Polish economy are creaking heavy industrial units which all over the West have had to be cut back in recent years. Their products are hopelessly uncompetitive. To make them at all commercial — whether by capitalist or socialist methods — would mean mass dismissals. But although the Government is threatening the Gdansk strikers with the closure of their plant, large scale closures seem unlikely; the sufferers would include too many of the bureaucrats and economic managers who are the Communist Party's only remaining real constituency.

In the shorter term, bringing inflation under control requires additional taxation, wage freezes, and cuts in the present State subsidies for essential goods. In the referendum on its programme of economic austerity and reform last December, the Government sought to gain public approval for such measures. The response was lukewarm. Most thinking Poles recognize the need for radical measures of restructuring but no one wants to make great sacrifices for a regime which has so often proved corrupt, repressive, and incompetent and which is seen by many as the agent of a foreign power.

The Polish regime does not have the legitimacy to ask its people for selfless effort. The only way for it to gain such legitimacy, and

create the consensus necessary for harsh economic measures would be to take the opposition, and in particular Solidarity, into partnership.

How far moves towards pluralism in Eastern Europe will go now hangs in the balance. In Hungary, economic and political development has gone as far as it can under what is still, in effect, autocratic rule through the party. After initial successes, the economy is now stagnating.

But to revive it, and give Hungarian society a new dynamism, party radicals have been calling for the process of reform to be carried one stage further. Full political pluralism in the Western sense would be vetoed by Moscow. Reformers have instead proposed a compromise whereby a measure of political pluralism might be combined with Communist rule.

Their aim is to revive the ghosts of the former democratic parties (Social Democrats, Farmers etc) which after 1945 were forced into "popular front" alliances with the Communists. According to the statutes, these parties still participate in the governments of Central Europe, and they retain residual party organizations and identities.

If allowed once more to recruit and campaign (within the limits of a governing "popular front") such parties could introduce some real choice of policies without threatening the general framework of the State and its alliance with the Soviet Union, or the ultimate supremacy of the Communist leadership. Such a formula could one day find favour in Moscow, at least under its current style of leadership.

It is to be hoped that the more intelligent and patriotic members of the Polish Parliament, debating the Bill which is before their House today, will realize this. The sort of harsh measures which any government would need to implement to rescue Poland from its present plight cannot be successfully imposed by a government as narrowly-based and unpopular as that of General Jaruzelski. Giving his Government yet more powers to suppress unrest will not change that.

Snags in legal contingency fees

From Mr Peter Steer
Sir, It is to be regretted that your leading article, "Fees by results" (May 5), should advocate a contingency-fee system for this country, albeit under some vague notion of supervision. Surely this is a misguided proposition.

It is based on the assumption that a lawyer's fees may be paid out of damages obtained during a legal action; the problem with this, however, is that it ignores other remedies available to the court such as the all-important injunction, specific performance and the public law forms of redress, which do not necessarily take the form of monetary compensation. Where are the fees to come from in such an action?

The answer is not to introduce a system which may, indeed, lead to greater access to justice for some persons — irrespective of their income — in an indeterminate amount of time, and, in my opinion, produce even greater inequality as lawyers become willing to take on only the most profitable cases.

Instead the present system of legal aid should be improved, the inefficiencies removed and the whole process made more accountable. In this respect, the appointment of such an accomplished administrator as Mr John Pitts, new Chairman of the Legal Aid Board ("Man in the news", May 5), to put the scheme in order is to be welcomed.

Yours faithfully,
FETER STEER
University of Exeter,
Faculty of Law,
Exeter, Devon,
May 6.

From Mr Nicholas F. Allan
Sir, The legal profession is not, as you suggested in your leading article, "Fees by results", responsible for the admittedly unjust system which puts certain categories of would-be litigants at a considerable disadvantage. Lawyers do not determine how much money is spent on legal aid or which categories of cases should be excluded from its ambit. This is the preserve of Parliament — in effect the Government.

The legal profession has been complaining for more years than I can remember about the unfairness of the system and the need for more money and a more graded system to take in those litigants who fall within the "middle-income classes".

As for the contingency fee proposal, by all means let us have it (although there are some valid and frequently discussed objections centred upon the less than

respectable practices that it may encourage in some lawyers). However, the real point is that a contingency fee system will only operate for the so-called "cash-rich" cases. This is a very small percentage. It will do nothing to assist most litigants albeit with genuine grievances.

Yours faithfully,
NICHOLAS F. ALLAN,
Firm's Gate,
Chiddingfold, Surrey.

From Mr Paul Collins
Sir, Your second leader maintains that the legal professions' reasons for opposing contingency fees deserve close review. The language used is calculated to imply that the opposition is disreputable. Contingency fees are said to be "abhorrent" to the professions and the objections deserve close review "at the least".

The question of contingency fees has had close review, in October, 1979, by the Royal Commission on Legal Services, chapter 16, which after reciting the arguments trotted out again by your leader and the arguments the other way, concluded:

"A system of this type would not work well in this country and would give rise to serious dissatisfaction. It would benefit only a limited class of litigants and would reward some lawyers disproportionately. We are satisfied that this type of arrangement should continue to be prohibited."

Yours faithfully,
PAUL COLLINS,
Strand Chambers,
218 Strand, WC2.

From Mr D. M. Schaffer
Sir, Consider the ordinary litigant with a justifiable claim but with no funds to pursue it. He has the benefit of the present legal-aid system which (subject to the merit of the claim) will fund that action through the court.

Consider, however, the ordinary litigant with a claim with little if any merit but who retains a solicitor on a contingency basis. The lawyer would press on regardless against a defendant who at the end of the day when the action fails will have nowhere to turn to recoup his costs which could be substantial.

It would encourage litigation with a plethora of worthless claims and would force defendants to settle on any terms to avoid recoverable expense. Is this really providing "greater access to justice" which the general public and the legal profession should make room for?

Yours faithfully,
D. M. SCHAFFER,
125 High Holborn, WC1.

Benefit distribution

From the Minister of State for Social Security and the Disabled
Sir, Linda Lennard of the Disability Alliance (letters, May 9) attacked the impact of the recent social security changes. She should not go uncorrected. She claims, for example, that "millions" will be worse-off and that one million will be people with disabilities.

The facts are very different: amongst all groups receiving income-related benefits, over five million will gain in cash terms and two and a quarter million will be unaffected. We have ensured that the benefit of 88 per cent of claimants is protected. Amongst the 960,000 people who may see cash reductions, only 10,000 are sick or disabled, and some 300,000 housing benefit recipients will receive extra help through the protection which the Government announced on April 27.

We now spend £100 million more on weekly income-related benefits than if the previous system had continued. All this is on top of the £3 billion increase in real terms since 1978-79 which this Government is spending on the needs of the disabled.

This year we are spending through income support an extra

Rural development

From Mr R. J. Price
Sir, Referring to Mr Ridley's rural development views of the South-east (report, May 9), we are not selfish but more aware of the frustrations and difficulties that arise from poorly planned development. Even an O-level pupil studying environmental geography understands the need to provide adequate infrastructure prior to any large-scale development.

Many areas of the South-east are devoid of good roads, lack

adequate rail services, suffer limited bus services, insufficient schools and shops and totally lack the range of leisure amenities to cope with any increase in house building.

Again, Mr Ridley is building another folly in a predominantly Conservative political region, against common-sense views in his own party.

Yours faithfully,
R. J. PRICE,
Sunnygarth, Cade Street,
Old Heathfield, East Sussex,
May 9.

Substantial presence

From Mr M. A. Hart
Sir, Mr Rogers's comment (May 5) that the Government should give serious thought to erecting a beautiful and dignified national memorial to Churchill belies the fact that there already is one. Beautiful and dignified it might not appear to all, but Churchill College is very much present here in Cambridge.

Yours faithfully,
MARTIN HART,
Fitzwilliam College,
Cambridge,
May 5.

From Mrs B. J. Carmichael
Sir, During the war I worked underneath what we called "The Citadel", not that "bunker on Horse Guards Parade" (letter, May 5). We would emerge in the morning after night duty quite unaware of the previous night's raids as no sound of gunfire or bombs penetrated, but we did know if it was foggy as this came through the ventilating system.

£60 million on 270,000 sick and disabled claimants through the disability premium. Over 85 per cent of this group gain or are unaffected by the changes, with average extra amounts of £4.80 a week. A further £8 million will go to the 7,000 claimants eligible for the severe disability premium.

We have also set aside up to £5 million this year for the innovative Independent Living Fund, to provide help to severely disabled people who have to employ domestic assistance or personal care to enable them to live in the community.

I recognise that major changes to an outdated and unfair system cannot be achieved without some difficulties immediately after introduction. So I am keeping a close eye on developments and monitoring the new system's progress. But the new benefit structure is a great improvement on what has gone before, particularly for disabled people, and one which is now both more fairly and more soundly based.

Yours faithfully,
NICHOLAS SCOTT,
Department of Health and Social Security,
Richmond House,
79 Whitehall, SW1,
May 10.

Last summer, viewing it from St James's Park, I thought how splendidly the building was being covered by creepers, but then memories and the eye of the beholder play their part, I suppose.

Yours faithfully,
B. J. CARMICHAEL,
Stromont,
7 South Stack Road,
Holyhead, Gwynedd,
May 5.

From Mr Norman Stevens
Sir, With regards to the letters (April 29, May 5) if the bunker on Horse Guards Parade is demolished, I shall always remember how beautiful it looked in spring and autumn covered in virginia creepers.

I suggest a "plant a virginia creeper year" would greatly enhance London. My choice of site to begin the campaign would be the South Bank Centre.

Yours faithfully,
NORMAN STEVENS,
Royal Academy of Arts,
Piccadilly, W1,
May 5.

Burdens on social work training

From the Chairman of the Central Council for Education and Training in Social Work
Sir, The Government's shameful rejection of this council's proposal for three years' basic training for social workers (report, May 6) will leave social workers ill-prepared for the work they do and their vulnerable clients at greater risk than is necessary or than they deserve.

This council has a statutory responsibility to set and maintain standards appropriate for social workers in the health and personal social services throughout the United Kingdom. After six years of consultation and negotiations, we told the Government in July of last year that present arrangements for social work training (despite the best efforts of social work teachers) cannot routinely produce social workers with the knowledge, skill and practice competence which they need to carry the responsibilities placed upon them.

Sixty-two new pieces of legislation have massively increased expectations of social workers since present one and two-year qualifying courses were introduced in 1972.

The Government has chosen to ignore our advice and the powerful arguments and evidence upon which it is based, to ignore the European standard of three-year professional training shortly to be enshrined in an EEC directive, to

ignore the remarkable consensus for change which exists throughout the personal social services and related professions and to ignore the conclusion of Louis Blom-Cooper, QC, and two separate child abuse enquiry teams that "nothing less than three years will do".

Instead of the £40 million a year needed to update and extend training arrangements, the Government has proposed a £1 million addition to our budget in the current year, and expressed hope of a little more in the future — without any firm commitment whatsoever.

This response is derisory and disgraceful. Government expects social workers to undertake an immensely difficult job in the face of public criticism when things go wrong. The least it can do is to ensure that they are properly prepared to carry the responsibilities which Parliament and society have placed upon them.

Yours sincerely,
BERRICK SAUL, Chairman,
Central Council for Education and Training in Social Work,
Derbyshire House,
St Chad's Street, WC1,
May 6.



ON THIS DAY

MAY 11 1936

Mussolini was at his bombastic best, or worst, in announcing the establishment of a "New Roman Empire", but that empire was not to last.

A NEW ROMAN EMPIRE DUCE'S BOASTS ENTHUSIASM IN ITALY

From Our Own Correspondent
ROME, May 10

All the provinces and peoples of Abyssinia have been placed under "the full and entire sovereignty of Italy" and the title of Emperor of Abyssinia has been assumed by King Victor Emmanuel for himself and his heir. Thus, after an interval of 15 centuries, "Italy has at last her Empire", and once again the pride of an imperial title hovers over the seven hills of the Eternal City.

The first outward manifestation of the new empire came this morning, when salutes of 101 guns were fired in Rome and in all the principal garrison towns of Italy. Similar salutes were fired by the ships of the Royal Navy, which were specially dressed to-day, and commemorative ceremonies were carried out at the Royal Air Force aerodromes. The measured official language of the nation with which the Fascist Grand Council last night expressed "the gratitude of the fatherland to the Duce, founder of the Empire," gave only a pale picture of the wild enthusiasm with which Signor Mussolini's announcement was greeted by the vast throng that had gathered to hear his words, or of the tumultuous demonstrations of patriotism, affection, and loyalty with which the people flocked immediately afterwards to offer their congratulations to the new King-Emperor.

FASCIST ORGANIZATION

In some ways last night's demonstration was even more impressive as an illustration of Fascist organization and discipline than last Tuesday's rally. Owing to the comparatively short notice at which the rally was called, many of the Fascist organizations never succeeded in forcing their way into the Piazza Venezia, and the end of the war was proclaimed to a crowd predominantly made up of individual men, women, and children. Last night it was otherwise. A surging sea of waving banners, standards, and other party insignia moved towards the piazza, and it was upon strong detachments of officers and men of the Fighting Forces that Signor Mussolini looked down when, after brief meetings of the Fascist Grand Council and of the Cabinet, he made his eagerly awaited announcement. He said:—

Officers, N.C.O.s, soldiers of all the Armed Forces of the State in Africa and in Italy, Blackshirts of the revolution, Italian men and women in the fatherland and in the world, Italian.

With the decisions that you will learn within a few moments, decisions acclaimed by the Grand Council of Fascism, a great event is accomplished. The fate of Abyssinia is sealed to-day, May 9, in the fourteenth year of the Fascist era!

All knots were cut by our gleaming sword, and the African victory remains in the history of the fatherland and in the world, a victory such as the legions that have fallen and those that survive dreamed of and wished. Italy has finally her empire, a Fascist empire, because it bears the indestructible tokens of the will and of the power of the Roman legions, because this is the goal towards which, during 14 years, we were spurred on the exuberant and disciplined energies of the young andashing generations of Italy.

An empire of peace, because Italy desires peace, for herself and for all men, and she decides upon war only when it is forced upon her by imperious, irrepressible necessities of life.

N Ireland democracy

From Mr Andrew Bryson
Sir, You describe (leading article, May 6) the Government's fundamental aim in Northern Ireland as "the restoration of democratic politics free from fear..." but omit to mention that the Government's understanding of "democratic politics" as it applies to the province is quite different from its understanding of the term as it applies to the rest of the country — indeed, the rest of the world.

"Democratic politics" is politics based on the franchise, i.e., on the right to participate in the election of the Government, and in the parties contending to form the Government. The chief weakness of the Government's policy is precisely that it has no intention of restoring ordinary party politics to Northern Ireland — despite the fact that (a) substantial majorities in both communities want it, and (b) that it is the only conceivable political context in which the allegiance of these communities to the Union can be given practical expression.

Yours faithfully,
ANDREW BRYSON
(National Organizer),
Campaign for Equal Citizenship
for Northern Ireland
(Great Britain section),
114 Lordship Road, N16,
May 6.

Law and language

From Mr Michael Pickett
Sir, In your report (May 6) of Judge Potter's order to a man he placed on probation at Birmingham Crown Court that he should learn English, a community worker is quoted as asking the question, "Where does it say in the statute books that somebody has to speak English to be a British citizen?"

The answer can be found in schedule 1, paragraph 1(1)(c) of the British Nationality Act 1981. Welsh or Scottish Gaelic will suffice in place of English.

Yours faithfully,
MICHAEL PICKETT,
12 Malthouse Road,
Southgate,
Crawley,
West Sussex.

Moulders of form

From Mr Barrie R. Stevenson
Sir, My advice to Mr C. L. Kirch (May 5) is to retain his "kipper" ties and flared trousers in readiness for their inevitable return to favour in the not-too-distant future.

From my own experience I am able to report that, having bought a pair of shoes in 1958 which are rather pointed at the toe (though not, I hasten to add, in as exaggerated a fashion as the erstwhile "winkle-picker" style), I was becoming increasingly aware during the past few years that I really must discard my outmoded footwear.

To my amazement, however, my 14-year-old son has recently taken to borrowing these very shoes, which he considers highly fashionable.

Yours faithfully,
BARRIE R. STEVENSON,
Willow Cottage,
Cowlings,
Newmarket,
Suffolk,
May 4.

From Mrs Janet L. Allin
Sir, I feel that Mr Kirch, of Wellington School, should be made aware that not only can he wear his braces again, he can also wear his old striped collared shirts without bothering about a collar. I visited two antique fairs recently and bought four such shirts, not just for my student son, but also for my two daughters.

Incidentally, if he should possess any old stiff, white, winged collars, perhaps he would let me know. These are in great demand.

Yours faithfully,
JANET L. ALLIN,
Hardwick House,
Caythorpe,
Grantham,
Lincolnshire,
May 3.

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Ladies' toiletries

More perhaps than any other television writer, Alan Bennett has made considerable use of the social niceties and the creative verbal strainings with which we camouflage the rituals of going to the lavatory. It was therefore something of a shock to be confronted in *Soldiering On* (BBC1), the latest of his "Talking Heads" monologues, with what sounded like an improper use of "toilet".

Words like "toilet" are normally meant and drink to Bennett's characters. Its syllables are

TELEVISION

mouthed by his magnificent band of faithful, mainly female, interpreters into an icon of lower-middle-class repression. *Soldiering On*, like the two previous monologues, was the study of the loneliness of a middle-aged woman. But what was different about its character, Muriel, splendidly played by Stephanie Cole, was that she was upper-middle-class. Part of the fascination of Bennett's writing is the way he can repeatedly return to old themes and obsessions and mould commonplace colloquialisms into increasingly poignant dramas, but this change in tone was, nevertheless, welcome.

Monologues are necessarily intense expressions of character, and the series so far as been almost too rich in archetypal Bennett voices. For this play he had raided a different store of gloriously awful phrases, and there was even a new rattle to the skeleton in the cupboard. Despite the class difference, his choice of words seemed faultless — except for one. A lady who came so late in life to the "toilet" would not go to the "toilet", even if it was just popping her head round the door in her daughter's mental hospital.

Murder in Peace of Paper (ITV). Robert Kee's accomplished television history of the shabby, foreboding events in Europe in September 1938, was the timely reminder for us that arrogance and weakness is an unwelcome combination for a country which seeks peace with honour. Chamberlain seemed a figure both more rational and absurd than in handed-down mythology, his comic unease on camera matched only by the ridiculous eulogizing of the film news commentators.

Andrew Hislop

Leader of the new pack

Sheridan Morley
talks to Joan
Plowright on
the eve of
her West End
directing debut

This is proving a remarkable spring for star actresses turning into directors: while Judi Dench and Geraldine McEwan stage Shakespearean comedies for Kenneth Branagh's Renaissance company in Birmingham, Joan Plowright makes her West End debut directing the new Marie Stopes play *Married Love*, with Susan Hampshire as the birth control pioneer, which opens at Wyndham's tomorrow.

Joan Plowright is the senior member of this new breed of women directors: though this is her first West End assignment, she began working on the other side of the footlights fully 15 years ago while her husband, Lord Olivier, was still in charge of the National Theatre.

"I did *The Travails of Sancho Panza* for children there, and then Kenneth Tynan and I had a plan to find novelists who could write plays. As an actress I've always been lucky enough to have long partnerships with directors like Zeffirelli and John Dexter, and in situations like that the two jobs do become to some extent interchangeable. Dexter always discussed his directing concepts with his cast. Although I never sat down and thought about it until very recently, I realize now that I have always wanted to direct. There just never seemed to be the time to change course until now."

With her three Olivier children all grown up and starting in the profession themselves, Plowright went to the Edinburgh Festival a couple of years ago to do a play by Sean Mathias and it was there that she began to get offers as a director.

"I've always been interested in what I suppose still has to be called Women's Theatre, and as the Mathias play was about a mother and daughter I began



Joan Plowright (left) rehearsing Susan Hampshire: "Larry said light them well and see they don't crash into each other"

getting a lot of rather similar scripts with offers to direct. But I was anyway committed to acting in a play, *The House of Bernarda Alba*, and then two films (the new Peter Greenaway, *Drowning By Numbers*, and an adaptation of Beryl Bainbridge's *The Dressmaker*), so I've only just got back to my original plan.

"Before I read Peter Luke's script about Marie Stopes I was shamefully vague about her life, but Susan Hampshire was passionate about the idea and the more I read, the more fascinated I became. The problem with a stage biography is always the amount you have to leave out, and as we have a rather male view of her in Peter's writing, it has been up to Susan and me to fight the Stopes corner. Relatives of hers have been coming to see the play on tour, and the general view seems to be that though the play is very far from a whitewash, it's a generally fair account of who she was and what she stood for."

How difficult is it, though, to become a director, having spent most of a distinguished and almost 40-year career taking direction from others? "Well, it's an extraordinary feeling at first: being a director you don't get the immediate reward of the applause, and all you can do during a performance is creep around the back of the stalls feeling furtive."

You've no dressing-room to retreat to, and once they get a first night the cast disperse with your services, because the audience becomes their new teacher of what works and what doesn't. They start to look at you patronizingly because they've gone beyond your ability to teach them, they've learnt more about the play simply by dint of doing it every night. I have even caught myself referring to actors as "them", which is the sure sign of a director.

"The play is not meant to be a

documentary: it's an impression of Marie's life, and though most of the script was of course settled before we started rehearsing, there were one or two areas that we were able to develop in workshops with the actors so it did change a bit; and then when we got to Guildford, I used to sit in the audience and sense where we were starting to lose them. There's been a lot of fine-tuning, and it can be suddenly rather daunting to find yourself in total charge of 16 people all asking questions at the same time. Larry, when asked for advice, just said light them well and see they don't crash into each other."

After Marie Stopes, Plowright returns to her other life as an actress: there's a Lady Bracknell to do for BBC television, and then another Spanish classic for Nuria Espert, but there's no doubt that she will also be directing again.

"There has been some progress since I was at the National in that the major subsidized companies do at least have taken women now

as directors, but there are still not nearly enough opportunities for them. Neither the National nor the RSC has yet given any one of its groups to a woman for any length of time, and those they do allow in still have to burrow their way through a largely male network."

"Women are still regarded somehow as a risk backstage, which is partly why I was so determined to work on this production with a female designer (Bunny Christie) and female composer (Rachel Portman), for whom opportunities are usually limited by their sex. Since the whole play is in one sense about the progress of feminism, it would have been madness to do it with a predominantly male team."

"In the end, though, the experience has just been one of recognizing what I'd already guessed: that a director can only ever prepare the journey on stage. It's the actors alone who have to take it."

CONCERT

Lighter delights

Melos Quartet
Queen Elizabeth Hall

This is the season when music students are herded into forbidding halls to answer strange commands like "Discuss Mozart's music in G minor". A thousand pens (writing, of course, on one side of the paper only) will spout half-digested Tovey, and another generation will have failed to think (and listen) for themselves.

The simplistic triple equation — that Mozart's instrumental works in G minor equal chromaticism, which equals tragedy — always seems to rely more on the circumstantial evidence of the operas, and our retrospective knowledge of what Romantic composers did with the extraordinary harmonic language which Mozart forged in these works, than it does on the internal evidence of the actual pieces.

Performers can make parts of the G minor Quintet, K516, sound doom-laden. But a lighter, less "interpreted" performance can be equally convincing, and that is what the Melos Quartet, with the viola player Enrique Santiago, offered last night.

In the outer movements, particularly, there was a cool deftness, a concentration on sharply-delineated interplay, that was almost ascetic in its determination to let the music speak freely for itself. The minuet was more severely introduced, and the finale's slow introduction certainly carried a considerable emotional charge, with heavy stresses gradually coming together into a massive crescendo.

But in general the performance was a notable antidote to conventional wisdoms: only the Adagio seemed slightly laboured.

Their performance of Brahms's Quintet in G, Op 111, had been slightly less satisfying. At its best, as in the first movement, it had irresistible energy and verve. But this sometimes toppled over into over-drive, pressing the momentum too hard and affecting Wilhelm Melchor's intonation on the high-lying first violin line. Melchor showed his true quality much later, reserving his sweetest cantabile for the Mozart finale.

Richard Morrison

Cuban introspection

JAZZ

Gonzalo Rubalcaba y
Proyecto Cuba
Ronnie Scott's

conventional trio, brass and percussion being added mainly for the up-tempo compositions.

The set opened with a thoughtful piano solo which owed much to the romantic tradition of a Keith Jarrett: the percussion, when it entered, seemed almost an unwelcome intruder. Rubalcaba continued in pensive mood with "Hermitage", one of Pat

Meheny's most wistful inventions. This provoked the most imaginative soloing of the night as the pianist played with time, first expanding then compressing the melody. His synthesizer interludes were less compelling, with much of the detail lost at high volume. The same could be said of "Giant Steps", an over-played piece which deserves to be put on the proscribed list. These are, however, minor complaints: Rubalcaba would certainly repay a second visit during his two-week stay. He has also whetted the appetite for the return of the Afro-jazz masters Irakere, due here next month, visas permitting.

Clive Davis



Oz chat: Garry McDonald and Andrea Moor in *Emerald City*

Evergreen crackle

THEATRE

Emerald City
Lyric Theatre

For audiences starved of the spectacle of liberal, middle-class self-laceration, here is a fine gladiatorial specimen from David Williamson, featuring such evergreen old numbers as "What's wrong with travelling first class?", and "Why we decided to send our daughter to a private school."

Part of the pleasure of witnessing this rep of issues now abandoned by English playwrights is to find them turning up, fresh as new, in the Emerald City of Oz, where they emerge at once as totally familiar and saturated in the customs of the country.

Williamson takes that well-known couple — the menopausal writer and his right-on spouse — and launches them into a new life in Sydney, defined by one sour habitué as "New York without the intellect". Colin, a moderately successful screenwriter with intimations of decline, hits town determined to make a big killing, no matter what the cost. His manoeuvres are frostily observed by his wife Kate, cherishing her still unstained integrity in a publisher's office where she hopes to place a work entitled *Black Rage* by an aboriginal protégé.

From that starting point you can already see that this pair are going to swap places by the end. Williamson's big contribution to the fable of these two Chardonnay socialists is to add a third figure: Mike, a Mephistophelian hustler

of no achievement and limitless self-confidence, who installs himself as Colin's co-author of a low-budget flop, and arises to partnership in an international production company which, among other acts of vandalism, buys up *Black Rage* and offers Colin the job of relocating it in Nebraska.

At this point the nakedly-compromised Colin digs his heels in and delivers what I take to be the play's key speech. "These stories are ours. Otherwise we'll always feel that real life happens elsewhere." Williamson's moral grows straight out of his plot.

Emerald City is a piece crackling with vicious ironies, as befits the "how we live now" genre. Not the least of these is the shaky guardians of Australian culture are the most Europeanized; while Mike, who would leave Sammy Glick standing, is entirely a creature of Oz. Max Cullen plays him as a snub-nosed pug, appallingly funny when he launches into his favourite topic of other filmmakers' disasters. It is small-town malice projected on an epic screen.

Garry McDonald and Robyn Nevin tear into the domestic scenes with the long-practised shorthand of an 18-year marriage, gleefully handling the integrity question as a power game, but never inflicting too much damage. It is not their fault that the roles (and the device of truth-speaking direct address) are strongly indebted to Peter Nichols; and that Williamson saddles them with comic projects that seem beneath their intelligence.

Irving Wardle

The Government Inspector

Inspector
Richmond

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In Compass Theatre's touring production, now eight weeks into its three-month journey round Britain, the role is taken by Paul Rhys, an actor of vital grace whose performance redressed a frightful play about the Venice ghetto, last year (not *The Merchant*), and who whirled together, in this one, the glamour and absurdity of Gogol's character into a dashing comic whole.

I would guess that he is eight feet tall, possibly just a little less: certainly he towers above Brian Murphy and Phillip Manikim and Sir Anthony Quayle; even Tim Preece's Postmaster, whose fondness for steaming open the mail

exposes the imposture, is dwarfed beside him.

Sprawling, stretching, scraping the floor with his ludicrously courtly bows, Rhys also has a habit of flinging his hands out into great gestures that after arching through the air freeze into attitudes that ought really to over-balance him.

The air of vulnerability is a potent feature of the performance: Khyestakov may be a shameless liar, but Rhys makes him at the same time a dippy adolescent, a sixth-former whose voice has just broken and whose limbs suddenly totter.

The timber set consists of three island walls, topped by unpaired domes cracked by the Russian heat, and readily adapted to different stages. However, it is perverse of Don Taylor's production to send the womenfolk off through a gap between walls instead of providing a third usable door.

Whatever reservations one may hold about Quayle in tragedy, his performances have always been strong in parts calling for panic and bluster, and in the role of corrupt mayor he has copious opportunities for both. He overdoes the pretence of falling about for words but is in top form with those moments of art mimicry that pop out unexpectedly, like distraught ferrets.

Jeremy Kingston

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LIMITED SEASON MUST END 18 JUNE

WEDNESDAY PAGE

The one-job marriage usually means his: in Penelope Keith's case it means hers. Sally Brompton asks if it also means bliss

The job-share pair

Penelope Keith's moment of truth occurred in the back of a taxi cab, "on the way home to my solitary house", after she had been to Broadcasting House to receive a BAFTA award for *The Good Life*. "I remember thinking: 'What am I doing working my arse off, and with this wonderful prize which everyone in the world must think is marvelous, but with no one to enjoy it with?'"

It was just a few weeks after that dismal insight into her lonely life as one of the country's best-known and most highly-regarded actresses that she met Sussex CID officer Rodney Timson who was to become her husband, business partner and professional and personal mentor.

They married in 1978 when Keith was 37 and the fact that she was six years older than her husband, considerably richer and famous to boot, caused the regulation jibes from the tabloid Press. When Timson left the police force in 1984 to participate full-time in his wife's career, it inevitably brought about a further outbreak of succinct headlines along the lines of "Penny enjoys the good life while husband Rodney rides shotgun". The Lancashire-born former policeman did little to improve matters by reportedly photographing journalists who interviewed Keith in case he disapproved of what they wrote.

It was, perhaps, significant that Timson was not in evidence when I met Keith for coffee in a Surrey hotel during the current pre-West End provincial run of Terence Rattigan's eternal love triangle, *The Deep Blue Sea*, in which she is starring, as well as co-producing with her husband.

She was briskly jolly, her conversation punctuated with

hearty chuckles and elegant gesticulations. The pounding which she and her husband received was, she admits, "horribly upsetting... He took it on the chin. He was superb. But he simply wasn't used to it. Happily it didn't affect our marriage; in many ways it brought us closer together. But then I think a policeman has a fairly cynical view of life and he just put into words what I was thinking."

Working together has proved a bonus - but is not necessarily something she would recommend to other couples. "I suppose

things at a slower pace than I do and then he suddenly says to me 'Calm down, calm down', and I say 'Hurry up, hurry up' and we meet somewhere in the middle. I'm like the good old woman that Peggy Lee sings about. I can actually do 75 things at once and he can just about do one and a half."

In *The Deep Blue Sea*, which opens at the Theatre Royal, Haymarket, on May 26, she is playing the part of the suicidally love-lorn Hester Collyer, the role made famous by Peggy Ashcroft in 1952. "It really is a harrowing part

depression, she says: "It was a natural progression. He'd done 25 years, which is a long time."

Their life together is quietly domestic. Appearing nightly on stage as she is at the moment, Keith does the shopping and ironing in the morning and puts her feet up in the afternoon. Her husband drives her to the theatre each evening, and after the show they go home and have some toast and pâté before retiring to bed. I wondered how the rest of the cast reacted to her ex-policeman co-producer husband. "They've never told me, but they seem to like him a lot. He comes in and says 'Hello' to them all but he doesn't hang around backstage all the time because there are other things to do."

For her, too, at last, there are other things. She is a passionate conservationist. Her attitude towards local conservation is not entirely shared by the residents of the picturesque hamlet of Wycolter on the Lancashire-Yorkshire border, who are protesting against her and Timson's plans to convert their country cottage into a six-bedroom guest house. Keith feels that their opponents are being unnecessarily sensitive. "We're talking about a village which already has between 75,000 and 100,000 visitors a year. We just wanted to put something back into the area where Roddy comes from."

And then there is her garden which "looms very large" in her life. She is presenting a gardening series for Thames Television later this year. "I always say I'm a gardener who acts, now. I do actually think I mustn't be away on tour for too long because the lily beetle will have taken over."

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At one with one another: Penelope Keith and her husband, Rodney Timson, a former policeman

I'VE GOT WHAT I WANTED AND IT'S AWFULLY NICE TO HAVE A ONE SORT OF LIFE. I LIKE THAT

everybody wants different things out of their marriage. I'm very lucky in that I've got what I wanted and it's awfully nice to have a one sort of life. I like that a lot. As well as working together in their production company, Timson also handles her personal affairs, what she describes as "the day-to-day running of me".

She married, she believes, in the nick of time. "If I hadn't met Roddy when I did I'd probably have had a nervous breakdown and have been in a la-la farm by now. I can remember vividly how exhausted I was."

While Timson had been wed twice before, for Keith their marriage meant completely restructuring her life. "Marriage is a growing together anyway, isn't it?" she says. "It's learning to adapt to other people. Roddy likes to do

reaching a fairly high emotional level, which takes a lot of energy to sustain. I've never been near to suicide myself, I'm happy to say. I suppose, in a way, I've got too logical a mind. But I've been in love and I've been out of love and I have been desperate - over work and, I suppose, relationships when I was younger - but not that sort of desperation and despair."

One disappointment in her life is the fact that she never had children. "Yes, I would have liked them but they never came and that was that." She dismisses a newspaper report which quoted her as saying that she and her husband were trying to adopt a child. "I'm very blessed with what I have."

Of her husband's retirement from the police force, following a lengthy absence from work when he was reportedly suffering from

Predictable fuss

Revelations roll off the presses... Does the new star of astrology have her feet on the ground?

These have been trying days for Joan Quigley, the sort of days that she is not able to predict. Suffering from jetlag and a heavy cold, she had spent the day rushing from her elegant two-storey apartment on San Francisco's Nob Hill to one local television station after another, to answer still more questions about her role in running the life of the leader of the Free World.

Her life has been turned upside down by the reaction to the revelations of Donald Regan, the former White House Chief of Staff, in his book *For the Record: From Wall Street to Washington*. According to Regan, virtually every major move of the President for the last few years has been dictated by Nancy Reagan by Quigley, sitting in front of her computer, 3,000 miles away from the Oval Office.

The news has stirred reaction across America, from dismay and horror to mirth. One church in Quigley's neighbourhood quickly erected a sign, reading: "Mr Regan believes in Armageddon; Mrs Reagan in astrology - it is enough to make you pray."

Amidst it all Quigley maintains that world leaders leaning on the stars is nothing new. "Winston Churchill hired an astrologer during World War II to predict what moves Hitler, who was devoted to the stars, was going to make," she says. "When Lindbergh wanted to fly the Atlantic, he went to his astrologer to find the best time to do it. And it worked."

In her sixties, the Vassar graduate and heiress to a San Francisco hotel fortune lives with her stockbroker sister Ruth. Quigley learnt about astrology from her mother's stargazer, Mrs Jerome Pearson, a Scottish housewife, who went on to develop, much against her millionaire father's wishes, a greater skill in the "science" than her mentor and is at work on her fourth book on the subject.

She was introduced to the First Lady by an American television talk-show host, Merv Griffin. The weekly phone consultations with the First Lady intensified after the assassination attempt on the President's life in 1981. "I certainly never controlled the President's actions, but Mrs Reagan would want to know if something was at a safe time, and I certainly advised her on that."

Quigley, elegantly attired and with her strawberry-blonde hair perfectly in place, refuses to say exactly how she advised the



Spotlight on the stargazer: Joan Quigley

Reagans - except for vague talk of good and bad times. She pooch-pooches what she calls the "pop amateurs" in her field. "I'm a serious scientific professional," Vague about her methods - "It's a complicated process which the layman would have difficulty understanding" - she talks about a "little book of symbols and figures called an ephemeris, which helped me find the relationship of the planets to the Sun and the Moon."

Her knowledge of astrology, she says, gives her confidence in Regan as President. "He's an Aquarian. All the best Presidents have been Aquarian - Lincoln, FDR, all the way up to Reagan."

She is not as charitable about Regan. "For a man in his position to have done this is unethical. I resent the circus atmosphere surrounding this whole thing. I feel awful. I've never divulged the names of my clients, or talked about my business." Her goal, she explains, is to elevate astrology to a position she feels it deserves. "A horoscope can tell you more about yourself than hours on a psychiatrist's couch."

Despite the furore the Regan revelations have inspired, the White House stoutly maintains that there is absolutely nothing wrong with consulting astrologers. *Time* magazine, which published excerpts from the Regan book this week, reported that Quigley had left San Francisco for France last month, not to avoid the furore but so that she would be away on May 5 - the date that she had predicted for an earthquake in the city. The trembler did not materialize.

Ivor Davis

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Sight lines

Today Naidex, the exhibition for the disabled at the National Exhibition Centre, Birmingham, sees the launch of the latest edition of *In Touch*, "a comprehensive reference book for anyone working with the visually handicapped". Its co-author, Thana Heshel, has been the producer of Radio 4's *In Touch* programme for the past 23 years. She stresses the "visually handicapped" since so many of her listeners have merely lost their "fine" sight, or suffer from tunnel, distorted or partial vision. The book was first published in 1973, and in 1981 pages tried to encapsulate eight years of programme discoveries. The new edition runs to 400 pages, with a braillé edition published simultaneously and a Moon version to become available at a time. (Moon is a form of embossed writing,

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A round-up of news, views and information

easier to read than braille but bulkier and more difficult to print until three schoolboys came up with a machine to do so, as part of an *In Touch* competition.) The book costs £5.95, including postage, from *In Touch* book, PO Box 7, London W3 6XJ. Cheques or postal orders should be made out to Broadcasting Support Services. The Naidex exhibition runs until Friday.

Quote me

"A few days ago I retired after five years as Chairman of the Equal Opportunities Commission. An oft-repeated question of that period was: 'If equal opportunities mean anything, why is your husband not a Lord?'"

Baroness Platt of Writtle

Getting fruity

Leap Year, coupled with the recent budget legislation against unmarried cohabitants, has caused a boom in wedding bells that has bespoke baker Gina Tarrant rubbing her hands with glee as she rolls out the marzipan. Tarrant, who is a direct descendant of John Walter, the founder and publisher of *The Times*, makes mouthwatering champagne wedding cakes to complement her own range of De Lahaye champagnes (the house champagnes of the Ritz, the QE2, and other vintage venues). Her favourite creations are her "pink champagne cascade" or "pink champagne fountain" cakes. The champagne and liqueur-stuffed fruitcakes, designed after personal consultation cost from £125 to about £500. Further details from Gina Tarrant, De Lahaye Champagnes, 3 Hagley Hall Mews, Hall Drive, Hagley, Stourbridge, West Midlands DY9 9LQ (0562 886913).

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MEDIA & MARKETING

A case of jumping the Gibraltar gun

OPINION

Robert Alexander

No argument about the conduct of the media takes place in a vacuum. There have been more than usual tensions between the Government and the media in the past few years. Many in the media are uneasy about standards. There is a general recognition that self-regulation can be preserved only if it is responsible and effective. But the debate on whether television companies should have shown their recent films on the Gibraltar shooting of terrorists is a separate issue to be considered on its own merits.

The Government complains that such television journalism is selective, can create a false impression ahead of the inquest in Gibraltar, and is calculated to prejudice the issues which have to be decided there. The media respond by pointing out that the Foreign Secretary himself gave a summary of the government version in a statement in the Commons, and that they have sought to engage in responsible investigative journalism without bias. They say that since the jury in Gibraltar is the jury in the United Kingdom, the showing of the programme in the United Kingdom will not influence them.

There is no doubt that, if the inquest were to take place in this country, those programmes would be the clearest possible contempt of court. It is equally clear that, because the inquest will happen in Gibraltar, the television companies commit no contempt of our courts. So the issue raised cannot be the subject of legal argument.

Perhaps this is unfortunate, since they clearly affect our own public interests and judgement is to be made on the conduct of our own citizens, who were protecting the interests of this country against terrorists. The oddity is that, though the inquest is to be held in Gibraltar, it is our public interest which is most directly affected.

This seems to me to be the starting point for considering rights and wrongs of the decision of the broadcasters to go ahead with the programme. A short statement in Parliament, to which the Foreign Secretary was bound to report, has been followed on the part of the Government by a correct refusal to

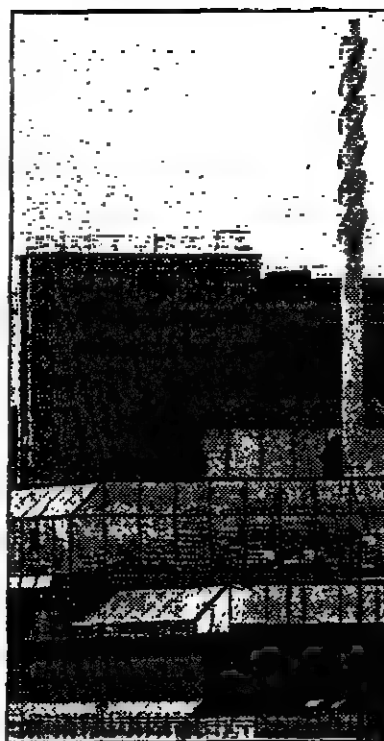
climate in which public confidence in the judgment of the very tribunal appointed to decide a serious issue is seriously diminished. The ground-work has been laid to knock the judgment before it appears. This undermines our system of justice and, in doing so, could be contempt of court if the court was sitting here.

In the present case, it is in public interest terms irrelevant that the inquest takes place in Gibraltar. It does so simply because terrorists were planning their attack there. Lord Scarman said in his letter to *The Times* on Monday that, if a doctrine arose which made conduct a contempt of court where proceedings are taking place abroad, we might fail to draw attention to or investigate oppression in foreign countries. No one suggests that we should create any such doctrine. But, in this particular case, perhaps the media should consider applying voluntarily the self-restraint which they would be forced to adopt if the proceedings took place here.

This inquest is about the conduct of our own citizens, and the issue is of great domestic concern. Such a programme tends to undermine in advance confidence of the public of this country in any verdict of the Gibraltar court which goes contrary to the views expressed in the programme. It may pressure witnesses into giving a particular version of events. It is certainly unfair to those participants who are keeping silent until the inquest. The programme must come to the knowledge of the Gibraltar jury. These factors are just as much real as if the inquest were held here.

Trial by television is without full evidence, and without the discipline of cross-examination. It may not bring in a verdict formally, but it often does so indirectly and certainly creates unease. Where issues affecting our own society are shortly to be considered by a court, wherever that court is sitting, this is surely unacceptable.

Robert Alexander, QC, is Chairman of the Panel of Take-Over and Mergers and a former Chairman of the Bar Council of England and Wales.



Battle stations: the headquarters of the British newspapers gearing up to win a share of the electronic media business throughout the world



Papers ply for the sky

The Press is plugging into a new market — selling its information to the burgeoning electronic sector. Andrew Lycett reports

As presenter of Sky Channel's nightly news bulletins, Aernout van Lynden is a privileged customer of *The Times*. Each afternoon the Dutch foreign correspondent is to be found in the paper's newsroom taking his pick of the day's stories filed by *Times* correspondents around the world.

Having made his choice, he travels to the Soho studios of Sky, the pan-European satellite-to-cable television operator. Last week Sky began broadcasting news bulletins four times a night to its 12 million viewers in 19 countries. Van Lynden turns *The Times* copy into headline news for these bulletins, then presents it.

Newspapers have been syndicating their reports for decades. But only recently have they woken up to the widening market for news and information in the electronic media. In the 1980s, quality papers, spearheaded by the *Financial Times*, have begun to exploit their material for use on databases and videotext services such as Prestel. Now *The Times* through its link with Sky (they are both part of Rupert Murdoch's News International group) has broken new ground as the first national newspaper to provide a news service to radio or television.

Others could soon follow suit. With Independent Television News under pressure to become more competitive, its virtual monopoly on news provision to Britain's independent television companies can no longer be guaranteed. There is also the growing area of satellite and cable television. ITN has failed to agree terms under which it could provide a news service to British Satellite Broadcasting, Britain's national direct broadcasting satellite operator. Other news

organizations are now trying to win the contract.

Most newspaper publishers admit interest in these fields, if not precise plans. Jim Markwick, managing director of *The Guardian*, said: "This is a delicate area." Only this week, *The Guardian's* sister paper, the *Manchester Evening News*, announced it was teaming up with *Business Daily*, the daily Channel 4 city programme, to compete for the BSB news slot.

The front runners in this field would logically, like News International, be shareholders in satellite television companies. Sure enough, the *Financial Times*, with its major stake (through Pearson) in BSB, is looking to beam news services into our homes via satellite. According to Terry Damer, the paper's sales director, it does not see itself "filling the sort of hole ITN was due to fill", but is more interested in business news.

News International, as Rupert Murdoch stated earlier this year, is already doing a feasibility study on providing a satellite news channel for Europe. Maxwell Communications Corporation, the other main British newspaper group with satellite interests (Premiere and MTV), declined to discuss specific schemes, but referred to its chairman Robert Maxwell's statement in its annual report that the company was "uniquely placed to provide the full range of electronic publishing of news, information, advertising, satellite video conferencing, audio compact discs and CD-ROM".

According to media analysts, quality newspapers are more likely to benefit from spin-off opportunities than tabloids. The *FT* is the past master in this field. It contributes seven on-line databases, ranging from the full text of the paper to company and business information. These are

available on five "host systems" including the *FT's* own Profile Information, better known as Data-solve. This month News International expects to sign a contract making available on Profile the full text of *The Times* and *The Sunday Times*.

Richard Withey, News International's database manager, says *The Times* hopes to put its Law Reports on database. "There is no reason why there should not be a spin-off from every part of the paper which has a market."

Many newspapers already provide successful but not widely known electronic services. *The Times* Network Systems provides educational and other material to 5,500 schools and colleges in Britain on Telecom Gold; Express Newspapers offers the Express Historical Data Base, "everything about national newspapers since the late 18th century".

A recent growth area in the spin-off business is the newspaper-linked phone-in service, known generally by British Telecom as Callstream services. *The Times* recently began offering Share and Racing Information lines; among other groups *The Daily Telegraph* offers a general information service and *The Guardian* a weather service. One of Britain's most successful publishers, East Midlands Allied Press (EMAP), owns 40 per cent of Telemap, an electronic publishing service on Prestel. As well as Microneer, a magazine for computer buffs, Telemap offers Xtra, an on-line entertainment magazine. There is clearly scope for a full on-line entertainment guide — a niche it would be surprising if some newspaper did not fill before long.

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NOVELLO is a leading publisher of serious music in the UK. As part of our planned expansion we are now looking for an Export Sales Manager to spearhead the development of our already substantial sales elsewhere in the world.

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You must have first rate secretarial skills, hands-on computer experience, 5-10 years office administration, book-keeping/ accounts a major plus. First 6 months salary £250 - £300 per week. Phone Lesley on 01-838-4630.

MEDIA & MARKETING

Britain's magazine market is about to be challenged by a rash of imported periodicals. David Housham looks at the pedigrees of the foreign competition

Over the next six months the British quality magazine market is going to be swamped by an unprecedented number of predatory launches, almost all of them will be imported titles or concepts.

May 17 is the launch day for *Hello!*, a British version of Spain's leading weekly women's magazine, *Hola!* This is already sold to Spanish-speaking readers in 92 countries, but *Hello!* is the first attempt at translating and exporting the format. In November a British version of the American men's fashion magazine, *GQ*, is due from Condé Nast, and on June 16 it is the turn of *New Woman*, a British version of the slick American monthly of that title pitched at ABC1 women between 28-35. It is the first launch by the British arm of Rupert Murdoch's American magazine group, and promises to be very different in content from its American model.

Elizabeth Rees-Jones, managing director of Murdoch Magazines, says: "When magazines move to different territories they adopt different personae. The trick is to keep the heart of the original magazine, but rearrange the flesh and bones to appeal to the readers in different countries and cultures."

On August 18, an Anglicized *Marie Claire* will land on British bookshelves. This monthly has 600,000 readers in France but its concept has been exported in various versions to Spain, Italy, Japan and the United Arab Emirates. It is being launched in Britain by European Magazines, a joint venture between IPC Magazines and Soci   Marie Claire Album (a big, privately owned consumer magazine publisher).

Heather Love, publishing director of the British *Marie Claire*, which like *New Woman* is aiming for a circulation of 300,000, feels the magazine will have no difficulty in establishing itself. "Fashion and beauty are an international language, and a title like *Marie Claire* comes with a pedigree which is attractive to international advertisers."

Elle magazine has already proved a success here. It is produced by a partnership of News International and the French publishing giant, Hachette, which has exported the swanky title to Spain, Italy, Sweden, Hong Kong, and the United States. Now it is preparing *Elles* for China, West Germany, Greece and Portugal. British readers have proved to have

Invasion of the glossies



Finally entrenched: *Best*, *Elle*, *Prima*, *Cosmopolitan*, *Vogue*; and coming shortly (top) *GQ*, *Hello!*, *New Woman* and *Marie Claire*

unpredictable appetites for foreign publishing ideas. The international appeal of *haute couture* has ensured the success of *Vogue* in America, Britain, France, Italy, Spain and Germany. As Helen Gurley Brown's brand of materialistic feminism swept round the world so did versions of her *Cosmopolitan*, with enormous success in Britain.

However, in the 1970s there were quick deaths for such imported concepts as *Street Life* (a would-be British *Rolling Stone*) and *Now!* (Sir James Goldsmith's attempt to create a European-style news magazine here); and more recently, Audrey Slough-

ter's unsuccessful British version of America's *Working Woman*.

The exception among the new launches is *Riva*, a glossy women's weekly, promised for September, which may sound foreign but is newly conceived by Britain's Carlton Magazines.

Presented with *Hello!*, *Marie Claire* and *New Woman*, it remains to be seen how British women will greet the new invaders. The million-circulation triumphs of Germany's *Gruener & Jahr* in importing its monthly *Prima* and weekly *Best* here with little basic deviation from their respective

German (*Prima*) and French (*Femme Actuelle*) editorial role models has crushed the notion of the parochial and jingoistic British reader.

David Hepworth, editorial director of EMAP Metro, whose *Smash Hits* is one of the few British formats to be successfully exported — to America and Australia — says: "The constant factor is — if you do it properly, it works; otherwise, it doesn't. *Gruener & Jahr* did it properly. They really got to know the local market."

  Times Newspapers Ltd 1988

BYLINES

Programmed for success

The new editor of *Radio Times* is to be Nicholas Brett, features editor of *The Times*. He has ambitions to increase the circulation of the country's best-selling magazine even beyond its current 3.25 million — although he gets the job just as groups including *Time Out* and *Brett's* current employer, News International, are again lobbying for an end to the magazine's lucrative monopoly on BBC television listings.

Brett ("I'm going from one national institution to another") also talks of redesigning the magazine, whose listings are shortly to be computerized, and of grouping the radio programme pages together in a single block. But he says he does not intend to take the magazine downmarket, which will please the 49 per cent of its readers in social classes A, B and C1.

Split over merger

The ACTT faces a split over merger talks with a rival broadcasting union, Beta, even if those talks come to nothing. The 8,000-strong ITV division may break away from the ACTT. The ITV members threatened to leave following last month's ACTT conference vote for merger negotiations. They have had talks with both TASS and ASTMS, and discussed forming a separate union. Now some division members are suggesting that if the ACTT cannot stop ITV companies from scrapping their national agreement with the union, there is little point in continuing to belong, merger or no merger. "We would go back to the position before 1962, when each ITV company had an individual agreement," said one activist. "We might be better off in that case having a loose liaison between the ITV companies and us, without all the expense of national organizers and a general secretary."

beginning of September it will be published on Saturdays to accompany *The Daily Telegraph* and exploit the growth in Saturday advertising. The *Sunday Telegraph* is to get a second broadsheet section in colour, which will be edited by Graham Paterson, currently assistant editor. His deputy will be Alex Shulman, previously features editor of *Tatler*.

In brief . . .

British Satellite Broadcasting meets Football League chairmen tomorrow to discuss its £9 million offer to take over exclusive TV coverage of soccer from the BBC and ITV. . . Former *Good Housekeeping* editor Charlotte Lessing and ex-*New Statesman* chief executive Gerry Taylor are among backers of *The Adventurer*, an English version of the Spanish travel and adventure magazine *Los Aventureros*, due to be launched this autumn. . . EMAP is keeping plans for a weekly television trade paper to rival *International Thomson's Broadcast* under wraps, even though launch editor Brian Davis was prowling last week's MIP international TV market promoting the venture. . .

Saturday colour

The Telegraph Sunday Magazine, which was originally published on Fridays, is on the move again. At the

Nick Higham

RECRUITMENT
SALES EXECUTIVE
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required to sell advertising space on the telephone and face to face in London's leading quality free magazine, *Girl About Town*. The successful applicant will be handling existing accounts and be responsible for canvassing new business.

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BBC APPOINTMENTS

HEAD OF
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RESOURCES

Policy &
Planning Unit
Central London

BBC News & Current Affairs

MOSCOW
CORRESPONDENT

Brian Hanrahan, BBC's Moscow Correspondent, will be leaving the Soviet Union in September. This creates a vacancy for an experienced television correspondent in one of the BBC's most important foreign bureaux.

Candidates will be expected to have a good command of Russian, a keen knowledge of East-West relations and a fascination with the changes taking place in the Soviet Union. They should have the ability to work to a wide variety of BBC programmes, from *Breakfast Time* to *Newsnight*.

The appointment will be for two to three years initially. Salary: by negotiation. (Ref: 5275/T)

PARIS
CORRESPONDENT

As part of its expanding foreign news gathering effort, the BBC wishes to appoint an experienced television correspondent to join its two existing radio correspondents in the BBC's Paris Bureau.

Candidates should have fluent French, deep knowledge of France and the ability to work to a wide variety of BBC programmes, from *Breakfast Time* to *Newsnight*.

The appointment will be for two to three years initially. Salary: by negotiation. (Ref: 5274/T)

PRODUCERS
West London

These vacancies are initially in daily Current Affairs Programmes (*Newsnight* and *Breakfast Time*) and in the *Newsroom*.

Candidates should indicate their preference. You will be responsible for major, complex news stories, using all the techniques of television journalism. You must show a high standard of editorial judgement and be able to supervise the work of production staff.

You will need journalistic experience in television, the ability to work at speed, leadership and initiative in handling staff and complex matters.

Salary:  15,488 -  21,305 plus an allowance of either  624 or  1,066 p.a. (Ref: 5277/T)

ASSISTANT
PRODUCER
West London

Initially you will be working on *Newsnight* and *Breakfast Time*. You will be expected to contribute both editorially and technically to the devising, formulation, preparation and production of programmes. This includes programme research, gallery and film direction and the rapid shaping of ideas into written and visual form in accordance with the Editor's and Producer's brief.

We look for evidence of achievement in journalism, a developed visual sense and an appreciation of the technical demands of television production.

Salary:  12,211 -  16,718 plus an allowance of  1,066 p.a. (Ref: 5276/T)

BBC News & Current Affairs
SPECIALIST
UNITSECONOMICS/
BUSINESS
EDITOR

A key feature of the BBC's  82m five-year expansion plan for its news and current affairs is the creation of three new specialist units. Each unit will be headed by a senior broadcasting journalist, who will appear selectively on major BBC programmes on both radio and television. Applications are invited for the following posts — all based Central London.

This editor will lead a team of over 30 journalists who will provide coverage for a wide range of BBC programmes in the subjects of economics, finance, markets, business, industry, labour, trade and commerce. The Economics/Business Editor will be the leading public face and voice of the BBC's treatment of these subjects.

With the creation, in the coming months, of a daily business news service on television and the re-launch of the weekly *Money Programme* the successful candidate will also have the opportunity to shape BBC business and economic journalism across a growing number of specialist outlets.

This post is one for an established, senior journalist, preferably with demonstrable broadcasting skills. The job calls for a deep understanding of economics and a lively interest in all other aspects of the unit's work.

Salary: by negotiation. (Ref: 9340/T)

SOCIAL
AFFAIRS
EDITOR

The Social Affairs Editor will lead a team of approximately 25 journalists covering, for both Radio and Television, a broad range of social affairs subjects, including education, health, social security, the environment, religious affairs, race relations, urban policy, housing, the media, the arts, legal affairs, sport, crime and Royalty.

This job involves broadcasting on major, selected programmes in both television and radio. The Social Affairs Editor will also have an important influence on a weekly television programme on social affairs to be launched next year.

Journalistic and analytical skills of a very high order are called for, especially concerning the welfare state. The successful candidate is likely to be an established senior journalist, preferably with demonstrable broadcasting skills.

Salary: by negotiation. (Ref: 9341/T)

FOREIGN
AFFAIRS
EDITOR

The London-based Foreign Affairs Editor will lead a small team of foreign affairs specialists in Radio and Television. Our existing team of diplomatic, defence and foreign affairs correspondents will be extended to include expertise in parts of the world, such as Africa, where the BBC lacks a substantial network of foreign bureaux. The Foreign Affairs Editor will also play an important role in generating ideas to be executed by our growing corps of foreign correspondents.

A weekly television programme on foreign affairs is planned for launch in 1990 and the Foreign Affairs Editor will have an important influence in shaping coverage for this and other outlets.

Salary: by negotiation. (Ref: 9342/T)

Unless otherwise indicated, for application form contact (quote appropriate Ref. and enclose s.a.e.) BBC Corporate Recruitment Services, London W1A 1AA. Tel: 01-927 5798.

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INFORMATION SERVICE

This selective guide to entertainment and events throughout Britain appears from Monday to Friday, followed in the Saturday section by a preview of the week ahead. Items for inclusion should be sent to The Times Information Service, PO Box 7, 1 Virginia Street, London E1 9XN

BOOKING KEY
★ Seats available
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FILMS

Also on national release
★ **ADVANCE HOLDING**
BABETTE'S FEAST (U): One of Karen Blixen's lighter tales, immaculately transferred to the screen by a fellow Dane, Gabriel Axel. With Stephanie Audran as a tender, Parisian chef who tests her skills on an austere religious community (105 min).
Cannon Premiere (01-439 4470). Progs 2.40, 5.00, 7.25, 9.45, 11.45, 1.40, 4.20, 6.35, 8.50.
Renior (01-837 9402). Progs 2.10, 4.20, 6.35, 8.50.

★ **CRY FREEDOM** (PG): Richard Attenborough's bumper bundle of exciting special-effects and liberal sentiments, with Kevin Kline as journalist Donald Woods, drawn into the case of South African activist Steve Biko (Denzel Washington) (158 min).
Empire Leicester Square (01-200 0200). Progs 12.05, 2.25, 4.45, 7.10, 9.30.

★ **EMPIRE OF THE SUN** (PG): J.G. Ballard's autobiographical novel about a British child in Shanghai caught by the invading Japanese in the Second World War. Filmed by Steven Spielberg with great panache. With Christian Bale, John Malkovich and Nigel Havers (153 min).
Cannon Fulham Road (01-370 2636). Progs 1.45, 5.10, 7.30, 9.45, 11.45, 1.40, 4.20, 6.00, 9.00.

★ **A FLAME IN MY HEART** (18): Alain Tanner's lugubrious drama, shot in black-and-white, very much a showcase for his star and co-writer Mylène Mazars - cast as an actress whose life disintegrates through her obsession with physical love (112 min).
Cannon Piccadilly (01-437 3561). Progs 1.45, 5.10, 7.30, 9.45, 11.45, 1.40, 4.20, 6.00, 9.00.

★ **MAURICE** (18): Set before the First World War, E.M. Forster's novel about Oxfordshire gentry, with James Wilby as the suffering Maurice and Rupert Graves as the gamekeeper with whom he falls in love (140 min).
Cannon Piccadilly (01-437 3561). Progs 2.00, 4.55, 7.50.

★ **MOONSTRUCK** (PG): Should Cher play a saint and marry Danny Aiello, or follow her heart and go for his brother, Nicholas Cage? Norman Jewison took the Best Director award at the Berlin Film Festival and Cher the Best Actress Oscar (102 min).
Cannon Baker Street (01-935 9772). Progs 1.35, 3.50, 6.00, 8.15, 10.30, 12.45, 2.50, 5.00, 7.15, 9.30.

★ **THE UNREARABLE LIGHTNESS OF BEING** (18): Philip Kaufman's massive and majestic adaptation of Milan Kundera's novel: a story of love and political consciousness set against the Russian invasion of Czechoslovakia. With Daniel Day-Lewis, Juliette Binoche, Lena Olin (172 min).
Cannon Baker Street (01-935 9772). Progs 1.35, 3.50, 6.00, 8.15, 10.30, 12.45, 2.50, 5.00, 7.15, 9.30.

★ **WITHNAIL AND I** (18): Knockabout British comedy about two out-of-work British actors trying to maintain sanity at the end of the Nineties. Written and directed by Bruce Robinson; with Paul McGann and Richard E. Grant (107 min).
Worner West End (01-439 0791). Progs 1.55, 4.10, 6.25, 8.45, 10.55, 12.55, 2.55, 4.55, 6.55, 8.55, 10.55, 12.55.

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THEATRE
LONDON

★ **BLUES IN THE NIGHT**: Hit black blues show, with Carol Woods, Sarah Woollett, Helen Gelzer and Peter Straker singing their hearts out in a sleazy Chicago hotel.
Piccadilly Theatre, Denham Street, W1 (01-437 4506). Tube: Piccadilly Circus. Mon-Thurs 8-10pm, Fri and Sat 8-11pm, Sun 8-11pm. £8.50-£14.50. (0)

★ **CYMBELINE**: Harriet Walter a radiant Imogen in Bill Alexander's fine Stratford production.
Theatre 66, Barbican Centre EC2 (01-638 8891). Tube: Barbican/Moorgate/St Paul's. Tonight 7.30-11pm, £8.50-£12.50.

★ **EASY VIRTUE**: Attractive revival of Noel Coward 1926 with Jane How scandalizing her teenage husband's faithful county lads.
Garrick Theatre, Chancery Lane WC2 (01-379 5107). Tube: Leicester Square. Preview from April 13, 8-10.15pm. Mon-Fri 8.10-10.15pm, Sat 8.15-10.30pm, Sun 2.30-5.15pm and Sat 5-7.15pm, £7.50-£12.50.

★ **EMERALD CITY**: Australian hit comedy by David Williamson giving the town down on down under.
Lyric Theatre, Shaftesbury Avenue W1 (01-437 3686). Tube: Piccadilly Circus. Mon-Fri 8-10.15pm, Sat 8.30-10.45pm, mats Thurs 3-5.15pm and Sat 5-7.15pm, £4.50-£14.

★ **THE FACTORY GIRLS**: Admirable Druid Theatre from Galway with new Frank McGuinness play.
Riverside Studios, Cross Rd, W6 (01-748 3354). Tube: Hammersmith. Preview tonight 7.45pm. Open Sat 7.45pm, Sun 2pm. £4-£14.

★ **ONE WAY PENDULUM**: Jonathan Miller's production of N.F. Simpson's absurdist comedy: strong cast of human actors and unusual chorus of weighing-machines rehearsing "Hallelujah Chorus".
Old Vic Theatre, Waterloo Road SE1 (01-928 7616). Tube: Waterloo. Mon-Fri 7.30pm, Sat 7.45pm, mats Wed 2.30pm, Sat 4pm. £4-£14.

★ **LONG RUNNERS**: ★ Beyond Reasonable Doubt: Queen's Theatre (01-734 1189). ★ The Business of Murder: Mayfield Theatre (01-628 3038). ★ Cats: New London Theatre (01-405 0072, cc 01-404 4079). ★ Chess: Prince Edward Theatre (01-734 9551). ★ Follies: Shaftesbury Theatre (01-379 5339). ★ 42nd Street: Drury Lane Theatre (01-836 8108/8109). ★ Kiss Me Kate: Savoy Theatre (01-836 8888). ★ Les Liaisons Dangereuses: Ambassadors Theatre (01-836 8111, cc 01-836 1171). ★ Me and My Girl: Adelphi Theatre (01-240 7913/4). ★ Les Miserables: Palace Theatre (01-434 0805). ★ The Mousetrap: St Martin's Theatre (01-836 1443). ★ Phantom of the Opera: Her Majesty's Theatre

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A change for the better

No other group has suffered the range of unlikely upheavals that have beset Fleetwood Mac in making its implausible transition from scuffling British blues band to a sanctuary for diamante Californian soft rock celebrities. The group was founded 21 years ago by the guitarist Peter Green who recruited a line-up of Jeremy Spencer (guitar/piano/vocals), John McVie (bass) and Mick Fleetwood (drums). The early albums were played in a hard-core Elmore James idiom, while hit singles like "Albatross" and "Man Of The World" emphasized a capacity for understated, lifting poignancy. In May 1970 Green quit and after five years a line-up emerged that included McVie's wife, Christine (nee Perfect), singing/songwriting duo of Stevie

**Compiled by Penny Osborn
and Jane Rackham**

Radio 4

... (long wave) (s) Stereo on VHF
... 5.55 Shipping Forecast
... 6.00 News Briefing; Weather
... 6.10 Farming Today (s)
... 6.25 Prayer for the Day (H)
... 6.30 Today, (M) 6.30, 7.30.
... 6.35 News Summary 6.45
... Business News 6.55, 7.55
... Weather 7.00, 8.00 News
... 8.05, 8.25 Sport 7.45
... Thought for the Day 8.35
... Yesterday in Parliament
... 8.57 Weather; Travel
... 9.00 News
... 9.05 Midweek with Ronald Eyre
... whose guests include the
... authoress Monica Dickens,
... theatre manager Richard
... Gordon who recently
... reformed the D'Oyle Carte
... company, and Lady Victoria
... Leatham, guardian of
... Buryghly House (s)
... 9.00 News; Gardeners' Question
... Time; Clay Jones and the
... experts visit the Presteyn and
... District Horticultural Society
... in North Wales (r)
... 9.30 Morning Story: Polo Neck
... by Linda Cropper. Read by
... Jenny Seagrove
... 9.45 Daily Service (s)
... 9.00 News; Travel; The Twice
... Promised Land (new series):
... Never Again. Three
... programmes marking the
... 40th anniversary of the
... proclamation of the State of
... Israel. Tudor Parfitt
... describes the
... transformation of the
... Jewish outlook in only three
... years from the end of the
... holocaust to 1948
... 9.47 Home from Home: Second
... generation immigrants talk
... about how British they feel.
... Cabaret artists, Donna and
... Kobah, discuss the
... influence of Greek culture
... on their act (2 of 5)
... 9.00 News; You and Yours: with
... John Buckley investigates
... the effectiveness of the
... Data Protection Act
... 9.25 The Small, Intimate Life of
... Gerald C Potter: A six-part
... series by Basil Boothroyd.
... With Ian Carmichael (4) (r)
... 12.55 Weather
... 00 The World at One
... 00 The Archers (r) 1.55
... Shipping Forecast
... 00 News; Woman's Hour:
... Includes items on women in
... Shakespeare's last plays;
... who women wear make up
... for; and an interview with
... Elizabeth Bergh, newly-
... appointed head of the
... Industrial Society's
... Peppercorn Unit. Plus episode
... one of the four-part serial
... The Hair by Vita Sackville-
... West, told by Geoffrey
... Beevers
... 3.00 News; Storytellers: A series
... of five dramatized stories (2)
... Mary Postgate, E. Rudyard
... Kipling, With Marian
... Diamond, Jeremy Clyde and
... Pauline Lettis (s)
... 3.47 Time for Verses: George
... Macbeth talks to Dannie
... Abse about his poetry
... 4.00 News
... 4.05 File on 4: Justin Webb
... reports on lobbying
... 4.45 Kaleidoscope Extra: Profile
... of E M Delafeld best known
... for *Diary of a Provincial
... Lady*
... 5.00 PM 5.50 Shipping 5.55
... Weather
... 6.00 News; Financial Report
... 6.30 Round Britain Quiz: Inna
... Thomas and Eric Korn
... challenge Jack Jones and
... Bill Russell (r)
... 7.00 News
... 7.05 The Archers
... 7.25 In Business (r)
... 7.40 Saturday Night Fry: Stephen
... Fry, Emma Thompson, Jim
... Broadbent and Robert
... Bathurst with the zany
... comedy show (r) (r)
... 8.15 Medicine Now (r)
... 8.45 Lords of the Land: Portraits
... of four aristocratic families
... (8) The Stanleys of
... Knowsley
... 9.15 Antony Hopkins Talking
... About Music: Exploration of
... different musical works or
... topics (s)
... 9.45 Kaleidoscope: Presented by
... Prabhu Gupta. A selection
... items on George V Higgins
... book *The Sins of Our
... Fathers*; Scottish Opera's
... production of *La Bohème*
... and a Mayfest report on the
... Maly Theatre of Leningrad
... (see Choice)
... 10.15 A Book At Bedtime:
... Slaughterhouse Five by Kurt
... Vonnegut (3 of 10) 10.25
... Weather
... 10.30 The World Tonight
... 11.15 The Financial World Tonight
... 11.30 Today in Parliament
... 12.00 News 12.20 Weather
... 12.23 Shipping
... VHF as above except 11.00am-
... 11.00 For Schools 11.00am-
... on Wheels 11.20 Junior Drama
... Workshop 11.40 Tap Dance Club
... 11.50 Poetry Corner 1.35-
... 3.00pm For Schools 1.55
... Listening Corner 2.55 WPM
... 3.50-6.00 PM (see 11.30)
... Open University 11.30 Arts and
... Philosophy 11.50 Art and Illusion
... 12.10am Music Interlude 12.30-
... 1.10 Schools Night-Time

FREQUENCIES: Radio 1: 105.3kHz/285m, 103.9kHz/275m, VHF-88-90.2
Radio 2: 69.3kHz/433m, 90.9kHz/330m, VHF-88-90.2, R3: 121.5kHz/
150m, VHF-90-92.5, Radio 4: 189.9kHz/1515m, VHF-92-95, LBC: 1152kHz/
150m, VHF 97.7, Capital 15.88kHz/158m, Radio London: 15.88kHz/
205m, VHF 94.5, World Service: MF448kHz/463m.

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Norton Opax to buy US cheque-printer

Norton Opax, the printing group, has agreed to buy Intercheck, a Seattle, Washington, printer of cheques and other financial documents, for around \$40 million (£21.3 million) cash, from J Bibby & Sons, the industrial group.

Interchecks made pretax profits of \$2.9 million on sales of \$47.1 million in the year to September 26 1987. Mr Philip Cushing, a director of Norton Opax, said the acquisition represented an important step towards countrywide penetration of the US cheque-printing market.

Ward White sells Kushins Kenyon buys Ulster firms

Ward White, the Payless-to-Halfords group, has sold Charles Kushins, the Los Angeles store chain, to JG Industries, of Chicago, and Berens Stores. The price is expected to be \$11.6 million (£6 million), of which \$9.6 million will be paid in cash, and the rest in loan notes.

Fletcher King in deal

Fletcher King, the estate agent which acquired a full listing in November 1986, is paying up to a maximum of £1.72m for Ernest Howard, a project and construction management company and quantity surveyor. The acquisition trades as Howard Associates.

The maximum total consideration would be 630,000 new Fletcher King shares priced at 220p and £330,000 in cash. An initial payment of 250,000 new shares and £275,000 cash is being made. A year ago, Fletcher King completed the purchase of Peter Hunter, the retail estate agency, for £2.89 million in paper.

Sears puts its best foot forward

Sears' profits came in at the top end of the range of expectations, but the shares still dropped 7p to 121p.

Disappointing trading and worries over future costs at Freemans, the recently acquired mail order company, were the prime culprits. Freemans made £27 million against a forecast of £33.2 million issued three weeks before the end of the year. The shortfall was due to over-optimistic expectations of the "specials" and a lenient view of bad debts.

Sears has provided £40 million over three years for future costs at Freemans, and admitted that first-half trading levels will be flat. The impact of Sears' brands will not be felt until the spring/summer catalogue next year, and the first Sears "specials" will appear in autumn/winter next year.

Elsewhere, Sears clawed back market share in footwear retailing, and boosted trading profits 23 per cent. Expansion this year will come internally through expanding the number of retail outlets, particularly the Adams children's

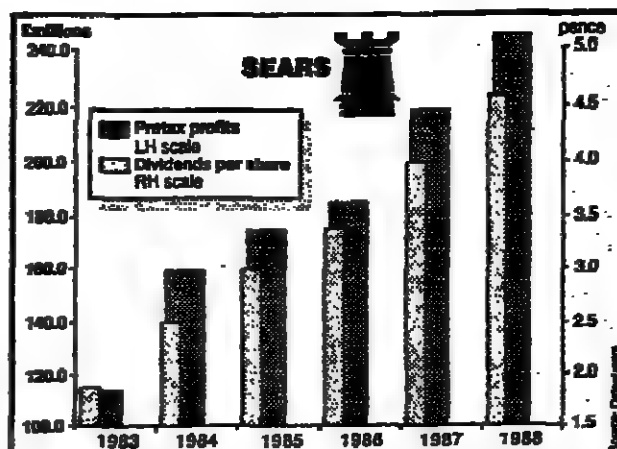
wear chain and men's fashion stores. Europe is also a priority, with footwear moving into Belgium and West Germany from The Netherlands and the Wallis chain expanding in Germany and Switzerland.

In common with others, Sears has experienced flatter March and April trading after a good February. However, with wage settlements running ahead of inflation and tax reductions due to come through next month, the outlook for consumer spending is buoyant.

Expectations of pretax profits this year have been pruned to £265 million. The prospective p/e ratio is 10.7 and the prospective yield an above-average 5 1/2 per cent. With such strong property assets, good brand names and speculation surrounding the 10 per cent holding by the Al-Fayed family, the shares are a buy.

UEI

UEI, having heard the sound of wedding bells in the past year, is in danger of being



thought always a bridesmaid, never a bride.

Twice it has been to the altar; twice it has emerged unscathed.

First, it courted Oxford Insurance. More recently, it held the hand of the Californian Kew Corporation, but dropped marriage plans over price.

From here on, UEI is to concentrate on its own family of interests to ensure the next generation of profits. After another successful 1987 year, and with 1988 starting off with

healthy order books, that aim should easily be realized.

In 1987, with the help of some add-on acquisitions and a higher return on sales - 14.8 per cent to 17.7 per cent - UEI saw pretax profits rise from £17 million to £25.1 million.

Of sales of £142 million, sound and vision led the field with a 35 per cent slice, followed by advanced engineering at 30 per cent.

As should be expected from the foundation stone for new products and more profits, research and development

expenditure remains significant - 25 per cent over the year at £9.1 million.

A higher-than-forecast profit outcome by recently acquired companies could trigger the issue of more UEI shares this year, which in turn would put a brake on earnings per share growth.

However, the group's five-year compound growth rate in earnings per share has been a respectable 22 per cent, and profits this year are set to reach the £30 million mark.

At 336p, on a rating of 12.7, the shares enjoy a deserved premium to the market and remain a solid hold.

McCarthy & Stone

McCarthy & Stone has a sound record as a developer of sheltered housing and as a quoted company. Against the expectations of many, it has held the competition at bay, selling more than 10,000 units in the last 10 years, while maintaining an impressive level of profitability.

Much of this is due to the

underlying demand for private sheltered accommodation.

But McCarthy & Stone's expansion geographically, within Britain and more recently into Ireland and continental Europe, has been an important factor in the group's continued success. Nursing homes and now leisure villages extend the customer base.

Margins in the first half, however, were hit as labour shortages and planning delays led to lower than expected completions. But margins are expected to return to about 25 per cent by the year end.

Bad publicity on the method of charging residents for services provided within developments has had minimal effect on sales while inquiries were 68 per cent up in the past two months. The company's confidence has been hit, however, as has that of existing residents, and legal proceedings are in train aimed at restoring McCarthy & Stone's reputation.

Completions should be well up in the second half, allowing the group to make at least £32 million pretax profits.

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More unit trusts to be won

Can you identify the businessman from the photographic clue? If not, pick up your telephone and call 0898-141-400, where you will hear our mystery guest talking about his company. Identify him and four other businessmen this week and £2,000 of this prize could be yours.

Our Stockwatcher competition, with £50,000 worth



of unit trusts from Equitable Life as prizes, is now in its fourth week.

Playing Stockwatcher is simple. It involves making a single telephone call each day, Monday to Friday.

Each day we will publish a new picture, and when you call 0898-141-400 you will hear a different voice, five each week. The recording of the personality will change at 4am each day.

Details of how to complete your entry to this week's competition will appear in The Times on Saturday, together with an entry coupon.

The first correct entry opened after the closing date will win the £2,000 worth of unit trusts. Winners may select the type of unit trust they prefer from a range recommended by Equitable Life.

Call 0898-141-400 now. Can you identify the voice of today's business leader?

Guinness Mahon demerger revealed

By Richard Thomson, Banking Correspondent

GPG is sending out documents to its shareholders today, detailing the demerger of Guinness Mahon, the merchant banking subsidiary.

An extraordinary meeting of shareholders will be held on June 3 to approve the plan.

The demerger will leave GPG - formerly Guinness Peat Group - with its British and US fund management operations, Fenchurch Insurance subsidiary and a 29 per

cent stake in GPA, the aircraft leasing company.

The move was nearly blocked by an Inland Revenue decision last week after Equiticorp, the New Zealand company which owns 61 per cent, decided that it might wish to sell parts of the group soon. A last-minute change of mind by the Revenue last Friday, however, has allowed the demerger to go ahead.

The offers are contained in a letter to Mr Charles Pullin, the chairman of Koppers, and are conditional on Koppers' agreement to begin immediate merger discussions.

Beazer's package includes a one-year guarantee against redundancy, and pledges to retain pay, pension and other benefits at current levels.

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1987 HIGHLIGHTS

- * Record pre-tax profits of £2.7m + 74%
- * Earnings per share 11.5p + 89%
- * Dividend increased for the thirteenth consecutive year to 3p per share + 10%
- * Net Asset Value per share - 193p + 25%
- * Investment Portfolio increased to over £57m + 42%
- * Development programme of £125m

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- Extract from the Chairman's Statement

The Report and Accounts are available from:
The Secretary, 51 Green Street,
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AMEV IN 1987

Net profit for the year ended 31 December 1987 amounted to Dfl 291.7m (1986: Dfl 322.5m). The figure was adversely affected by lower exchange rates, particularly for the US dollar.

Results in both 1986 and 1987 were influenced by exceptional items. Adjusting for these influences and exchange rate movements, profit after taxation was 4.1% higher than last year.

Companies in the Netherlands accounted for 40% of total income, with the USA contributing 39%, other European countries 17% and Australasia 4%.

There is an unchanged dividend for the year of Dfl 2.55.

At the end of 1987 shareholders equity amounted to Dfl 2,217m.

Results for the first quarter of 1988 will be released on 17 May.

Copies of the 1987 Annual Report can be obtained from:
AMEV (UK) Limited
1 Houndwell Place, Southampton SO9 1NY.
Telephone: 0703 637411

Profit & Loss Account (millions of guilders)

	1987	1986
Life Assurance	207.3	271.2
Non-Life Insurance	47.7	115.1
Other Activities	84.6	45.8
	339.6	432.1
Taxation on Profit	(59.6)	(110.9)
	280.0	321.2
Extraordinary Result after Tax	13.8	-
Third Party Interests	(2.1)	0.3
Net Profit	291.7	322.5

£1 = approx. Dfl 3.50

AMEV Worldwide

AMEV is an international insurance and financial services group based in the Netherlands. Its shares are quoted on the Amsterdam Stock Exchange and options on AMEV bearer certificates are traded on the European Options Exchange. Total assets are now Dfl 25bn.

AMEV operates in 13 countries: Belgium, Denmark, Eire, France, the Netherlands, Spain, Switzerland, the United Kingdom, Australia, New Zealand, Hong Kong, Singapore and the USA.

AMEV in the UK

AMEV (UK) offers a comprehensive range of financial services through its operating companies, Gresham Assurance Group and Bishopsgate Insurance.

Gresham is engaged in all aspects of life assurance, pensions, mortgages and unit trusts. Bishopsgate, together with its subsidiary Leadenhall Insurance, is a general insurance company operating in marine and non-marine business through the London market as well as in travel, motor and other personal insurances.

N.V. AMEV, Utrecht, The Netherlands

Lloyds Bank Interest Rates.

With effect from 10 May 1988 the rate of interest applicable to Personal Term Loans will be reduced to 1 per cent per month (APR 12.6%). Also the rate applicable to Educational Loans will be reduced to 0.8 per cent per month (APR 10.2%).



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Carbo pays its way to a Stock Exchange listing

By Carol Ferguson

Carbo, the manufacturer of abrasive discs, sandpaper and concrete drainage channels, is moving up to a listing on the main market next week.

Originally a management buyout of the European abrasives division of the US Carborundum company, Carbo has, almost since its formation in 1983, been quoted over the counter on the Granville Independent Companies Exchange.

The shares have recently stood at 140p on the exchange, implying a market value of £18.7 million for the whole company. This compares with an initial share price of 5p in 1983, and the buyout price of £2.1 million. At 140p, the shares are on a market average

historical multiple of 10.1, and the historic yield is 4.4 per cent.

As a division of Carborundum - itself a subsidiary of Standard Oil - Carbo had been making losses for several years up to and including 1983.

Since 1984, its first full year as an independent company, the product range has been rationalized, costs cut and money invested in new plant and machinery. Carbo made a profit before tax of £1.8 million on sales of £42 million in 1984. In the 12 months to last December 31, pretax profits were £3.1 million on sales of £58 million.

The group occupies a profit-

able niche, manufacturing high-performance abrasives to precise technical specifications for the steel, aerospace, automotive and machine tool industries where close finish tolerances are critical. It is a highly competitive and essentially mature industry, where future growth is likely to be steady rather than spectacular.

However, abrasives have generated significant cash flows which have allowed Carbo to repay its initial £1.5 million of borrowings, implement a big investment programme, and purchase a Swiss manufacturer of polyester concrete drainage products, Polybau, for £4.5 million, yet finish 1987 with zero net debt.

Polybau manufactures modular pre-cast drainage channels for use where water has to be drained quickly from hard surfaces such as shopping precincts, sports surfaces, filling station forecourts and airports. It is a substitute for conventional drainage systems which have been used in the construction industry for many years.

Mr Trevor Egan, Carbo's chairman and chief executive, said Polybau was a company with growth potential, but that he was looking for a "third leg" for future expansion. His strategy is to look for a significant acquisition in a further growth business, possibly in injection moulded plastics.

BAT to face new US hearing

BAT, the tobacco to financial services group, has been ordered by the Illinois state director of insurance to provide details of its planned £2.5 billion takeover of Farmers, the US insurance group.

Mr John E Washburn has set May 31 for a hearing. He is seeking information about BAT's intentions for Illinois Farmers Insurance company, how the purchase will be financed and details of BAT's experience in the insurance business.

Difficult year

King & Shaxson, one of the last traditional discount houses, yesterday reported profits after tax and transfers to reserves of £175,000, unchanged from last year. Discount houses suffered a difficult year in 1987 because they are severely affected by falls in interest rates. Basic rates changed eight times during the 12 months to the end of April. Nevertheless, King & Shaxson still intends to increase the dividend for the year from 8.75p to 9.25p. The company owns Smith St Aubyn, another discount house.

Verson grows

Verson International Group, formerly Bronx Engineering, made pretax profits of £865,000 in the year to end-January, against £176,000 in the previous 14 months. Sales rose to £34.1 million from £31.3 million. The final dividend was 0.22p, against 0.1p previously.

Centreway up

Centreway Trust, which holds 50.1 per cent of Centreway Industries, the specialist manufacturer, is resuming dividends, with a 0.5p share payment. The Trust's pretax profits were £916,000 for the 1987 financial year (£629,000), on a turnover of £20.5 million (£28.2 million).

Robinson buy

The Robinson Group has bought from Matthew Hall one company in Colorado, United States, and a group Australian company for a cash consideration of \$700,000. The companies, Pincock, Allen & Holt of Denver, and Australia are consulting engineers to the precious and base metal industries.

Guinness sale

Guinness has sold Multiplast, a Dutch plastics manufacturer, to Dypco Ind AS for approximately £4 million.

COMMENT David Brewerton

Borrie gets a headache at the Cinema

It would be difficult, but by no means impossible, for the Monopolies Commission to be called in to investigate a merger of Cadbury and Rowntree while a Swiss takeover of Rowntree was allowed to go through unhindered.

Within the two British groups, such a merger is now being actively thought about and occasionally discussed. There have been no detailed talks between the two because, until now, such an idea would have been unthinkable on monopolies considerations. But on the international stage, there is room only for world-class players. Neither Cadbury nor Rowntree quite fits into the world league. Together, they could compete within the top five, one of which is Nestlé, the unwelcome bidder.

But if merger is to be possible, fancy footwork is vital. Already the Swiss have a stake of about 40 per cent as so many British institutions, known for their myopic view of industry, fall over each other to sell out to the highest bidder. Even those who sold in the Suchard raid at 630p have not learnt their lesson. If Cadbury were raided this morning, they would also sell for a pound a share profit.

A merger would have to be worked on the basis of a share exchange of Rowntree shares for equity in an enlarged Cadbury. The Swiss could retreat to their mountains, consult their gnomes and even their cuckoo clocks, and take the choice of a smaller stake in the combined group or a pretty shilling from the underwriters.

Timing out in Tokyo tangle

The British Government has always found negotiating with the Japanese a bit like being involved in a complex dance to which it has never learnt the steps. It keeps tripping over its own feet, as in the latest *pas de deux* over gilt-edged dealing licences in London in return for stock exchange seats in Tokyo.

The Japanese have an inbuilt advantage in these negotiations in having only one authority, the Ministry of Finance, making decisions. The British have three or four. The negotiations have mostly been fronted by the Treasury, which has been more than willing to take an aggressive line with the Japanese when it wants. It is therefore absurd of it to blame Barclays de Zoete Wedd for causing trouble by lobbying hard for Tokyo stock exchange membership.

Meanwhile, the Department of Trade and Industry, and 10 Downing Street itself both want their say. The DTI seems keen to indicate that there is no suggestion of retaliatory measures being taken by Britain, although it is clear that Mrs Thatcher is now personally anxious to gain more concessions from Japan.

Last of all, the poor old Bank of England has to maintain an air of

Unless, of course, they have already carried control of Rowntree away to the Continent, in which case Cadbury also becomes more vulnerable.

On Monday night, Sir Adrian Cadbury was beating Sir Gordon Borrie about the head with the need to consider British industry's place in the world after 1992. Sir Gordon kept a secret: he was already two steps ahead of the nimble chocolateater, and had let the Americans get clean away with their acquisition of Cadbury shares.

Sir Gordon may have woken yesterday morning with a headache, but he soon passed it on to the Bournville knight. Sir Adrian was not amused, and let rip at the OFT. He complained that he had been given no notification that the matter had been under consideration and no opportunity to put Cadbury's case.

It does seem extraordinary, if not downright rude, that Sir Adrian should have been kept in the dark. But the plot does not stop there. It appears that not even the Office of Fair Trading knew that the Department of Trade and Industry was telling the world that Lord Young had decided not to refer the matter.

Conspiracy? Unlikely.

The problem is that merger policy is still ill-defined and the areas of responsibility are far from clear. On an uneven playing field, we are still honourable amateurs competing against hardened professionals. And too many institutions do not know how to recognise the home team colours.

£2.9m half time fall at Bibby

By Alexandra Jackson

A difficult trading period for the agricultural, packaging and security printing divisions led to a reduction in pretax profits from J Bibby, the industrial conglomerate.

They fell from £17.9 million to £15 million in the six months to March 26. The dividend was maintained at 2.75p.

Sound performances from science products, materials handling and paper and converting activities made up for some of the shortfall.

Most of the group's activities are performing well and have good prospects for continued growth.

Changes to the group, including the sale of the security printing division to Norton Opax for \$40 million (£21.2 million), and the proposed management buyout of the flexible packaging part of the packaging division, will have a positive effect on the group.

The benefit of the integration of the Nitrovit business into the agricultural division will also be felt.

As a result, Mr Richard Mansell-Jones, the Bibby chairman, is looking forward to next year with confidence. J Bibby shares rose 2p to 162p.

UEI grows to £25.1m

By Colin Campbell

UEI, the high-technology electronics and engineering group, is poised for further profits growth in the current financial year and its order book for 1988 is full.

Mr Peter Michael, the chairman, yesterday unfolded pretax profits in line with market estimates at £25.1 million for the year ended January 31 compared with £17 million in the previous financial year, on a turnover up from £115 million to £141.9 million.

The return on sales advanced from 14.8 per cent to 17.7 per cent. Earnings per share rose to 23.3p.

The company is raising its final dividend from 3.8p to 4.7p a share making 7p (5.9p) for the year.

Mr Michael said group research and development expenditure rose by 25 per cent to £9.1 million, and that gearing had been halved to 13 per cent at balance sheet date.

UEI recently withdrew from takeover negotiations with Kever Corporation, the American scientific instrument company, "because we thought the final asking price was too high", and will now concentrate on expanding its US interests through organic growth.

UEI plans a range of new products and increased capacity to meet strong demand.

Times, page 26



Full back: Peter Michael (Photograph: Peter Trifunov)

Morgan to reduce Mid Kent stake

By Martin Walker

Morgan Grenfell, the merchant bank, has been forced by the Takeover Panel to clarify its position over its 50.2 per cent voting rights in the Mid Kent Water Company, in the light of the recent forays by various aggressive French companies into the British water industry.

The bank bought £5 million 8 per cent preference stock when it was offered by tender in December 1986, intending the purchase to stand as a banking asset to offset a liability.

The stock carried with it majority voting rights. Morgan Grenfell has said it will reduce its holding to below 30 per cent in due course, and will meanwhile only vote in respect of 29.9 per cent.

Mr Robert Strager, a corporate finance director at the bank, said at the time of the purchase it had not been realized that the Takeover Code applied to statutory water companies. This had only become apparent with recent share purchases by the French.

"The Panel felt that it would be a good idea if we clarified our position in relation to this stake," he added.

Folkestone and District Water Company is offering for sale by tender £2.5 million in 7 per cent redeemable preference stock 1998, with a minimum price of issue of £100 per £100 of stock. The issue opens today and closes on Thursday next week. A 10 per cent deposit is required.

Efficiency boosts Warner Howard

By Our City Staff

Increased productivity at the Warner Howard Group, the supplier of warm-air hand-driers and commercial laundry systems, boosted pretax profits by 32 per cent to £3.25 million in the year to end-February.

Sales grew more slowly, by just 5 per cent to £12.86 million.

The company, which made its stock market debut in June last year, is paying a final dividend of 2.07p, making a 3p total.

The "excellent performance" in its flotation year was set to continue into the current year, with the first two months of trading in line with budget, the company said.

The profit increase was also

due to a continuing emphasis on the rental side. Rental renewals were running at a high level, boding well for growth, said Mr Ernie Hazell, the managing director.

With nil gearing now, the company was on the takeover trail, he added, with two businesses being courted.

One was in laundry rental and supply, with a price tag of about £1 million, and the other, which would take the company into catering equipment supplies, would cost £2 million to £2.5 million.

Meanwhile, the first acquisition since the company came to market, Automations International, had been successfully integrated, with returns higher than expected.

Death of a piece of history

The fire which gutted historic St Mary at Hill Church in the heart of the City in the early hours of yesterday has led to fears that the Church Commissioners may now sell off the site for redevelopment. Flames were first spotted in the church tower by the night watchman in the offices of merchant bank Guinness Peat, directly opposite, at about 2am. He called the fire brigade but it took them some eight hours to extinguish the fire. Acknowledged as the second most beautiful Wren church in the City, after nearby St Stephen Walbrook, it was famous for its furnishings, which included 18th century box pews and 17th century wood carvings by Grinling Gibbons, who was also responsible for some of the finest work in St Paul's. The brickwork of the tower is intact and so is the 18th century pulley clock which has, for many years, been maintained by Guinness Peat. The bank's offices were evacuated for more than an hour. "There would be no problem organizing an appeal in the City if the insurance doesn't cover everything," one employee said. "But the real fear is that the commissioners might argue that there are sufficient churches here and sell the site." The rector, Dr Brian Kirk-Duncan, is a controversial figure within the church, being anti-establishment. A robust capitalist - he owns a Rolls-Royce - he is chaplain to a number of livery companies.

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

York puts its dukes up

Whatever City institutions might think of Rowntree's efforts to see off its Swiss suitors, they certainly cannot criticize the townsfolk of York, where the beleaguered chocolate company has its headquarters. Malcolm Heppell, the Lord Mayor, flew off to the land of secret bank accounts last night, wearing his full civic regalia. He will be calling

on both Suchard and Nestlé to warn them of the hostile reception awaiting them should the bid succeed. Proving that he means what he says, the local Yorkshire Evening Press, which has been publishing "protest coupons", has so far received no fewer than 10,000 of them, duly filled in by citizens registering their indignation.

Dedicated

Hillsdown Holdings, the highly successful meat to furniture company founded by chairman Harry Solomon and David Thompson, now a non-executive director, is unusual in that it discourages the publication of photographs of either man - for fear, apparently, of animal rights protesters. But



what is even more unusual for a firm of its size is that it never grants service contracts to the directors of either its main or subsidiary boards. "I don't believe in service contracts, we have never had them and we never will," Solomon tells me. "If the shareholders want to throw us out, they can. My directors would lay down their lives for this company. We don't need service contracts to protect us."

Brand new

Robert Brand, one of the City's top food analysts, returned to the Square Mile last week, taking up his new post at BZW. After three months enforced exile, following his resignation from Wood MacKenzie, Brand is now leading BZW's food manufacturing team. "I had a three-week holiday in Thailand with my wife, Colleen, which had been planned for some time, and I spent the rest of the time attempting to move house and trying to improve my golf."

Traps in a trap

Sir Lawrie Barratt, the amiable and sporting chairman of Barratt Developments, the house-building group, may have become the latest victim of sabotage by animal rights activists. Gamekeeping staff on his 4,840-acre Farndale estate in North Yorkshire are, I hear, on the alert after discovering that four snares, set to trap foxes, have been stolen from a local wood. The snares had been laid to ensure that Sir Lawrie, a keen shot, continued to enjoy a plentiful supply of pheasants - foxes are believed to have killed a number of the birds in recent months. Ironically, it is now emerges that it was the very same snares which had been spoiling the fun of three local hunts - the usual targets for animal rights groups - which converge on Farndale each season, much to Sir Lawrie's annoyance. According to locals, no one can remember the last time any of them caught a fox on the estate in the old-fashioned pinks and stirrup-cup way.

Forget company cars, company loans and cheap mortgages when it comes to putting across a positive view of your company. Robert Bright, president of the Federation of Merchant Taylors, is calling for companies to enhance their corporate image by providing their executives with suits. "A good suit certainly creates a better first impression on a client than a company car parked several blocks away in an underground carpark," he says. Fair point, you must admit.

Carol Leonard

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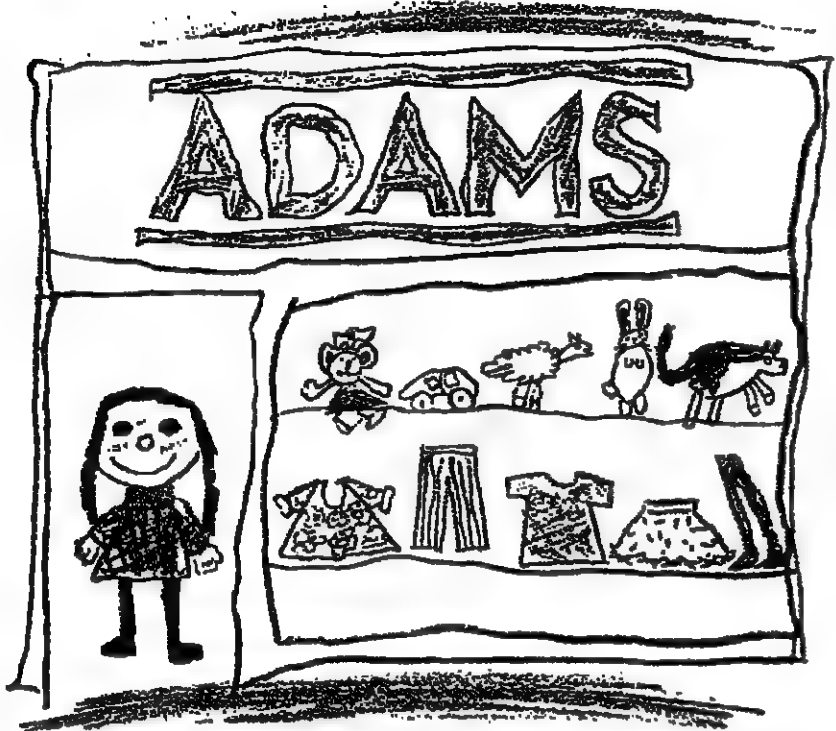
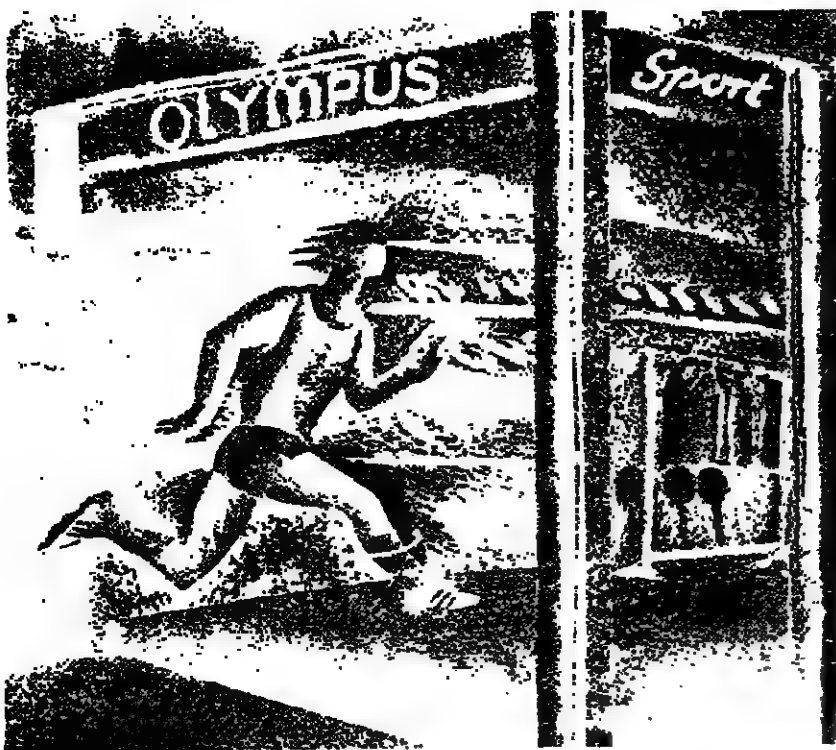
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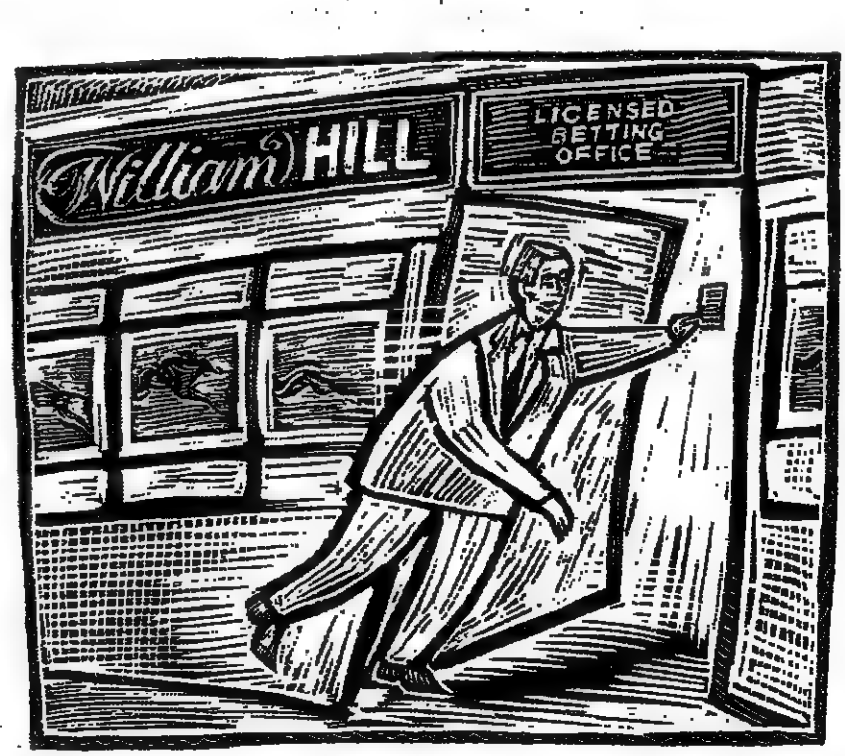
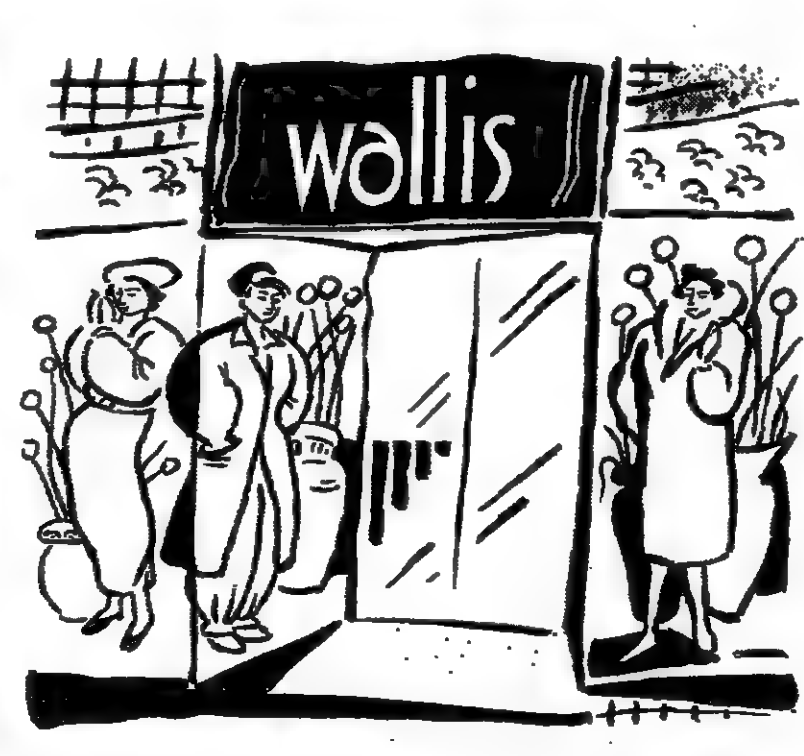
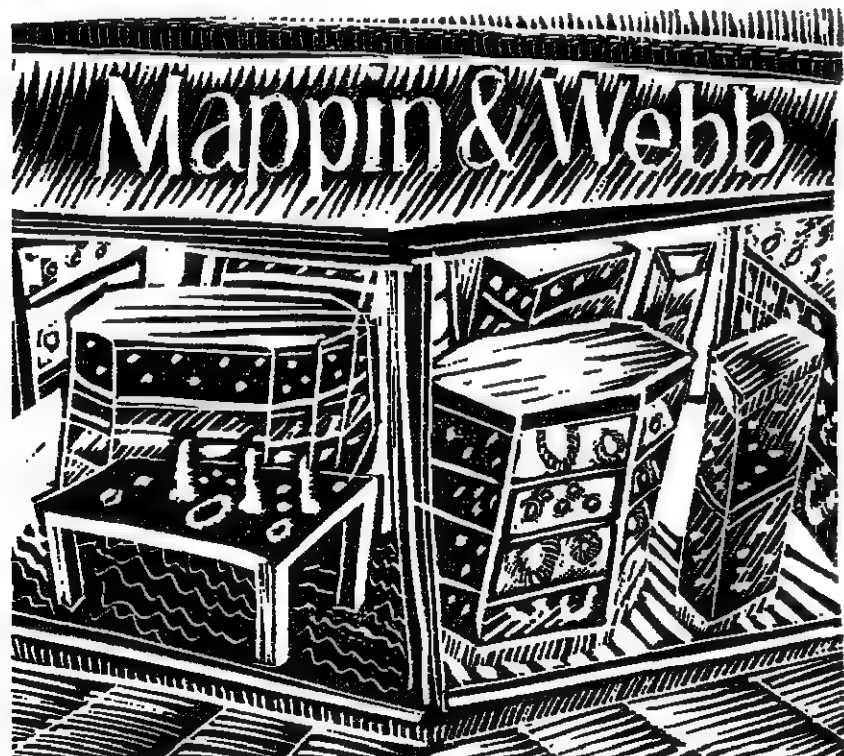
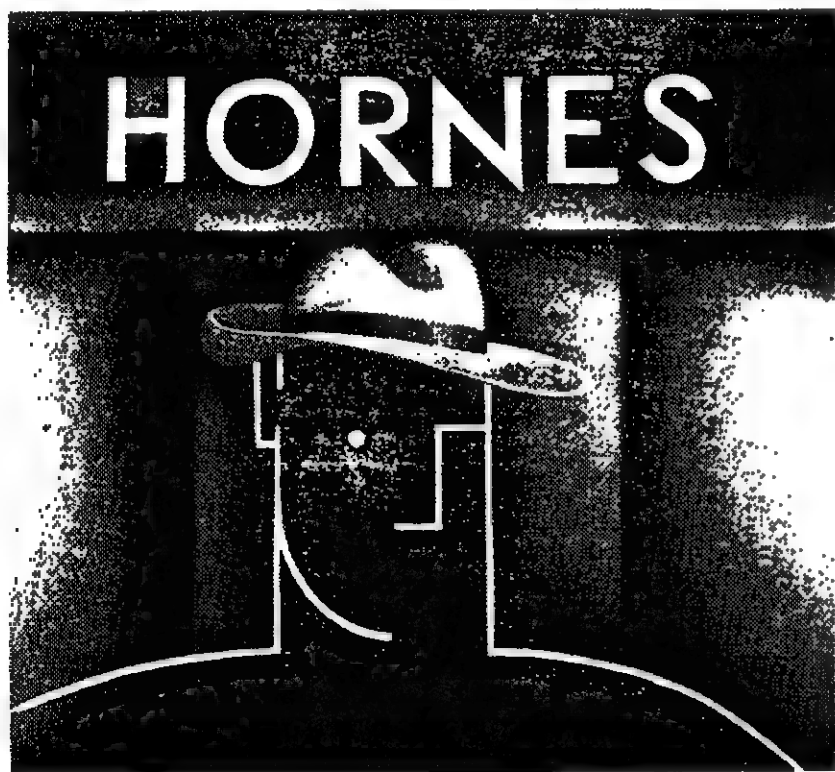


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Sears plc

WE'RE STRONG ON THE STREETS.

David Brewerton assesses the battle for cross-Channel supremacy

Ferries face up to Eurotunnel

The two big boys in the cross-Channel business, Sealink British Ferries and P&O European Ferries, would sooner fight the threat posed by the Channel Tunnel than battle with their own seafarers, or even each other.

But if they are to compete with the tunnel, they have first to cut their costs so that when necessary they can slash their prices.

Flexlink, the consortium of ferry operators which tried unsuccessfully to cave in plans to build any fixed link across the Channel, argued that the ferry companies could sustain a reduction of 40 per cent in their tariffs.

Eurotunnel, the group which has won the right to build a rail link under the sea to France, reckoned the best the ferryman will manage is a 5 per cent cut.

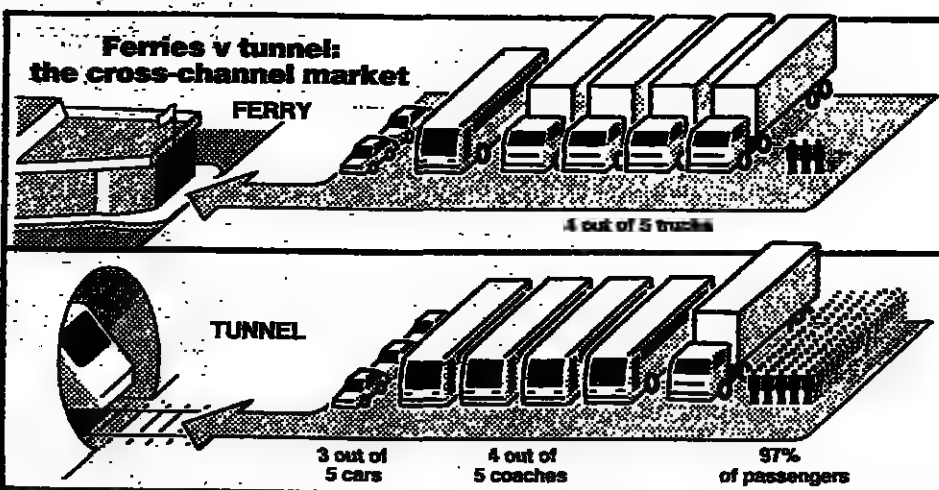
In its financial prospectus, Eurotunnel based many of the financial projections that formed the basis of its £5 billion fund-raising exercise on the limited scope it believed the ferry companies had to cut costs. The long strike suffered by P&O and the steady deterioration in industrial relations at Sealink appear to bear out Eurotunnel's argument.

Transport analysts at Kitson & Aitken, the securities house, Mr Alan Kelsey and Mr Clive Anderson, pointed out that while Flexlink boasted of achieving a 40 per cent tariff reduction, "it has been careful to avoid implying that unit costs could fall by a similar percentage."

Nevertheless, in order to ride a decline in tariffs of that magnitude, the ferry operators need to make a significant cut in costs. The main area for cost reduction is manning levels, but there are other aspects to the cost-cutting exercise.

A new generation of "jumbo" ships is planned by both Sealink and P&O, which could, if they are used with sufficient intensity, cut direct costs by 40 per cent. So could the whole of the Flexlink tariff cut be brought about by a switch to "jumbos"? Not at all.

About a third of the costs carried by the ferry operators are made up of port charges and handling costs, rather than expenses of moving the ships. It will be much more



difficult to make sizeable gains there.

Inevitably, the ferry operators are starting first where they feel there is the greatest potential for savings, on board ship.

Mr Kelsey and Mr Anderson reckon that the claimed 40 per cent tariff reduction would be difficult to achieve and sustain, but equally that Eurotunnel's assumption of a 5 per cent cut underestimates the likely competitive reaction.

They reckon a reduction of about 20 per cent in average revenues would be a reasonable balance.

If forecasts of Eurotunnel traffic are anywhere near accurate, the ferry operators have cause for concern

But even 20 per cent is far greater than the ferry operators' profitability, which means the companies would run at a heavy and permanent loss unless they bring about substantial cost reductions.

Both P&O European Ferries and Sealink British Ferries are parts of transport conglomerates, and precise figures for their Anglo-Continental ferry operations are not available. But Sealink, which also operates Irish routes, achieved a turnover last year of about £300 million including on-board sales. Its profit, before tax, was reported at £28.2 million, or £15 million at current exchange rates: a mar-

gin of just 5 per cent, all of which was probably earned on sales of duty free goods.

P&O lumps its entire passenger shipping operations together in its financial accounts. Including the cruise liners, 1987 turnover was nearly £650 million while operating profits were £41 million, a profit margin before interest of just over 6 per cent. The European ferries business accounted for little, if any, of that profit.

Cross-Channel passenger traffic is growing at a faster rate than predicted by the consultants working for Eurotunnel. The number of passengers has increased by an average of 10.5 per cent between 1985 and 1987, reflecting more car and coach passengers, but fewer travelling by foot.

Within the overall growth, the proportion of passengers using the shortest sea routes has increased relentlessly from 20.5 per cent at the start of the decade to 43.2 per cent last year.

It is over these short sea routes that the greatest battle for market share will be fought. Eurotunnel reckoned to offer customers a fare 5 per cent below the ferries and a saving of 1½ hours on their journey, on which basis it expects to attract more than 40 per cent of all passenger traffic, including air travellers.

But the market share of surface travel is projected much higher. It expects to carry four out of every five coaches, three out of every five cars, and virtually every foot passenger.

The forecasts are no more

than informed guesses, it is true, but if they are anywhere near accurate, then the ferry operators have cause for concern.

Freight traffic is even more difficult to predict. Eurotunnel forecast a 4.3 per cent growth between 1987 and 1993, a slowdown on the 5 per cent annual increase seen since 1970. But the amount of freight crossing the Channel increased by an average of 5.6 per cent per annum between 1985 and 1987.

Analysts have forecast that less than a fifth of freight traffic will pass through the

Collaboration between the ferry companies is probably the best chance of beating the tunnel threat

tunnel. There are certain products that are either too big or too hazardous. Even domestic aerosols might be banned. On the other hand it is calculated that freight becomes more economic by rail once the distance travelled exceeds 175 miles. That may be seven times the distance across the Channel, but it has to be remembered that the link between Britain and the Continent is just one part of a much longer journey.

Mr Alastair Morton, Eurotunnel chairman, is well aware of the need to capture rail traffic before it reaches the tunnel terminal, and has begun a campaign to persuade any-

one who will listen that improved rail links are needed across Kent in particular.

Even though the Flexlink consortium has been disbanded, and there seems little common cause between Sir Jeffrey Sterling of P&O and Mr James Sherwood of Sea Containers, owner of Sealink British Ferries, collaboration between them is probably their best chance of beating off the tunnel threat.

Until the dispute, P&O had two jumbo ferries in service, the *Pride of Dover* and the *Pride of Calais*, although both are currently abroad. Mr Sherwood reckons that if his own group and the still state-owned end of Sealink could each bring into service two jumbos, and another operator could provide one more, then seven such ships could provide a fast, half-hourly shuttle between Dover and Calais. No booking necessary. On costs and convenience, the tunnel would have a formidable competitor.

The plan has, for the moment, been put into limbo by the Office of Fair Trading, but not ruled out. Competition policy is no clearer in transport than in confectionery. In the air, British Airways can rule. On the sea, it has not been decided whether two can combine to do battle with the tunnel.

But even if the two leading British ferry companies, P&O European Ferries and Sealink British Ferries, collaborated to form a shuttle service with common pricing, the cartel could not be cosy. Unlike previous cartels, it would have to work to bring down prices to compete, rather than keep them artificially high.

The other alternative is that one of the ferry companies links with the tunnel. Sir Jeffrey Sterling was, after all, one of those approached to become Eurotunnel chairman, and the tunnel operators could learn a lot about the handling of large volumes of passengers and freight.

But one statistic must stick in the mind of the ferry companies in their current battle to cut costs. If they could manage to undercut the tunnel tariff by 20 per cent, then the tunnel's share of the market could be cut by a quarter. That quarter, even given the growth in the total market, is worth battling for.

CBI chief criticizes bid-proof barriers around foreign firms

By Derek Harris

Mr John Banham, director general of the Confederation of British Industry, has given warning that any French or West German company contemplating takeover bids for British businesses will face a tough fight.

He was enlarging on his call last week for the Nestlé bid for Rowntree, the confectioner, to be referred to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission mainly because of a lack of reciprocity between Britain's open financial market and that in Switzerland where companies are effectively bid-proof.

There is a similar pattern of protection, with large blocks of shares unavailable in some companies, in France and West Germany, he pointed out. "It could render some companies in certain circumstances bid-proof. Again it brings up the question of reciprocity."

Mr Banham argues that in the case of Rowntree the public interest is as much in play as the company. He is all for market forces operating for mergers and acquisitions but, as he puts it, "the playing field must be level", allowing British companies an equal chance to attempt takeovers in countries like Switzerland with a bid-proof tradition.

But he also believes that, in the run-up to the single European market in 1992, Britain cannot afford to see leading brands sold off because that amounts to selling off the national seed corn.



Fighting: John Banham

There is also the factor that companies like Rowntree make big contributions to their local communities. Cadbury Schweppes, under threat from a possible bid from the United States, is included in that category.

Mr Banham said: "As a general proposition market forces should operate and government should only intervene and bring in the Monopolies Commission where the issues at stake could not be expected to be evaluated by the market. There can be national strategic issues or regional ones. Our view is that a combination of lack of reciprocity, the regional issue and the importance of world class brands in the run-up to 1992 constitutes a set of issues which the City cannot reasonably be expected to evaluate."

But the last thing Britain should be was restrictionist, he emphasized.

The single European market brought a new perspective to the judgement of competition issues. If Cadbury and Rown-

tree merged, a view of market share might be totally different when looked at from a European market standpoint compared with a purely British one.

The CBI had no intention of intervening in the affairs of its individual members. "But there is no question that we are here as a minimum to flag issues of concern with respect to the long run competitiveness of British business which it is our job to promote."

"In our judgement the present situation in the confectionery industry raises such questions which we think should be passionately examined."

Everybody needed to watch such questions closely because it was important that Britons did not handicap themselves for 1992. "We have a long history as a nation of handicapping ourselves."

The CBI intervention in the chocolate wars prompted Nestlé, at the end of last week, to threaten to end the CBI membership of Nestlé UK.

If Nestlé does leave the CBI Mr Banham might reflect on the possibility that it might be back, judging from past experience of walk-outs.

In view of the CBI's stand in the chocolate wars there is some irony over the departure from its membership at the beginning of last year of the Lucas group. Lucas walked out because it thought the CBI was not being sufficiently forceful in standing up for British industry. Will it, one wonders, at some point rejoin today's combative CBI?

Amstrad buys Fidelity name

By Our City Staff

Mr Alan Sugar's Amstrad group has bought the Fidelity brand name and trade mark from Caparo Industries for £3.1 million in cash - and it immediately put the name to use, with the launch of a new division.

It was disclosed last week that Fidelity, the loss-making hi-fi and television business, was to close, at a cost to Caparo of up to £10.5 million. Caparo's efforts to stem Fidelity's losses had been

undermined by the strength of the pound over the past three years, which gave its leading Far East competitors a big advantage that finally proved irresistible.

Amstrad will now market a range of audio, television, video and similar leisure-related products under the name Amstrad Fidelity.

Mr Malcolm Miller, Amstrad's group sales and marketing director, said: "With the Fidelity brand on board, it is our intention in the medium term to build up our leisure

products portfolio, and create a greater awareness and generate greatly increased sales for this part of our business."

Yesterday saw the launch of the first Amstrad Fidelity product, a video camera costing £499.

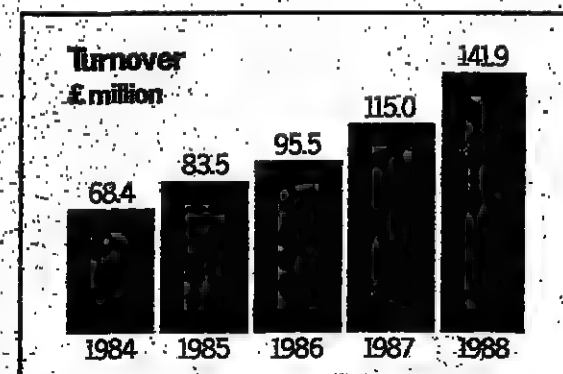
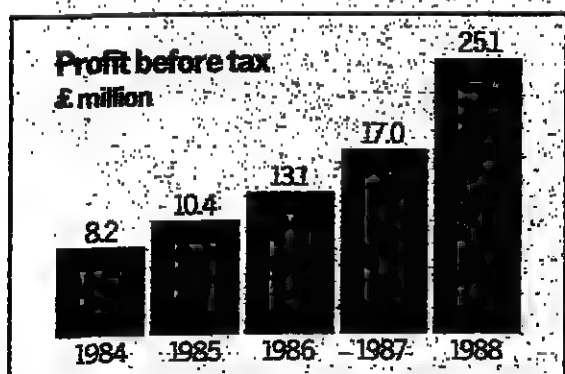
The move marks the entry of Amstrad into a substantial untapped market for video cameras, which have until now been beyond the reach of the mass market. Conventional "camcorders" cost at least double the price of the Amstrad model.

WEI

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- 50% increase in profit after tax.
- Exports up 26% at £95m.
- 90% increase in sales to the Far East.
- Gearing halved to 13%.
- 25% increase in R&D expenditure to £9.1m.



Summary of Results
Year ended 31st January

	1988	% increase over 1987
Turnover	141.9	+23
Profit before tax	25.1	+47
Profit after tax	15.7	+50
Earnings per share	23.3p	+23
Dividend per share	7.0p	+19

The above figures are extracted from the Preliminary Announcement of the results for the year ended 31st January 1988, issued on 10th May. For further information please contact the Company Secretary, WEI plc, 19 West Mills, Newbury Mills, Newbury, Berkshire RG14 5HG.

QUANTEL

World leaders in image processing for broadcasting, graphics, medical and scientific markets.

Solid State Logic

World leaders in audio systems for recording, video, broadcasting and film.

COSWORTH

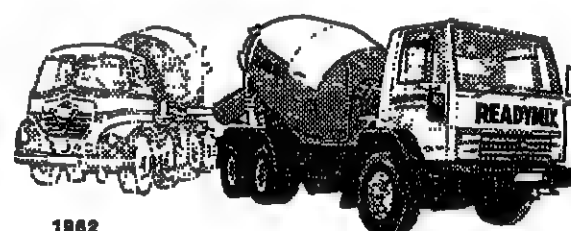
World leaders in design, development and manufacture of high performance car engines.

Miles 33

World leaders in text and graphics composition systems and in office automation for solicitors.

Link ANALYTICAL

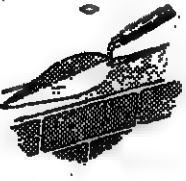
World leaders in micro-analysis for research and materials development.



1982 READYMIX 1987



AGGREGATES



MORTARS



WASTE DISPOSAL



D.I.Y. SUPERSTORES



ROAD SURFACING

'Excellent progress in our 25th year as a public company'

"It is particularly satisfying to report that our twenty fifth year as a public company has been a year of record profits. Excellent progress was maintained in 1987 and the operations in most countries in which we are based improved their profitability."

The robustness and the operating performance of the RMC Group reflect the enthusiasm and commitment of its employees throughout the world. For all their efforts I am glad to express my warm appreciation and thanks."

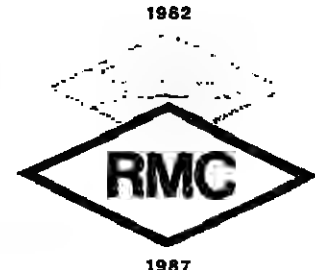
From the statement by the Chairman, Mr John Camden.

Summary of Group Results

	1987	1986
TURNOVER	£1788.7m	£1633.5m
PRE-TAX PROFIT	£150.7m	£108.5m
EARNINGS PER SHARE	42.1p	30.5p
DIVIDENDS PER SHARE	11.0p	8.75p

The Annual General Meeting will be held at the Inn on the Park, Hamilton Place, Park Lane, London W1, on 3rd June 1988 at 11.30a.m.

If you would like a copy of the 1987 Annual Report, please write to: The Secretary, RMC Group p.l.c., RMC House, High Street, Feltham, Middlesex TW13 4HA.



1987



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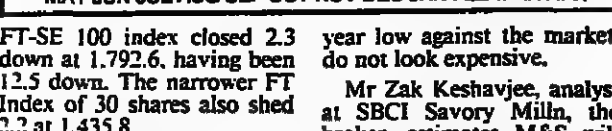
The RMC Group operates internationally in Austria Belgium France Holland Israel Republic of Ireland Spain United Kingdom USA and West Germany

TRADITIONAL OPTIONS

New York (Reuters) - Wall Street shares stayed higher after an early surge of buying on announcements by leading brokerage firms that they would end certain futures-related arbitrage trading. The trading created market volatility and drove many investors including traders, away from shares.

The Dow Jones industrial average which closed down 10.11 points at 1,997.35, on Monday, rose by 6.13 points to 2,003.48 in early trading. Advancing shares led declining issues by three to two.

An opening rally on Wall Street, which saw the Dow Jones industrial average move back above the 2,000 level, helped prices close well above the day's lowest levels. The



1988-89 as a result of improved British trading. He says the shares, at a five-

DeLyons	987	Cons Gold	1,248	L&G	352	Sainsbury	881
Enstrad	9,023	Cookson	430	Leamington	2,453	Scott & N	1,437

Vol '000	Vol '000	Vol '000	Vol '000
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[illegible]

Barclays de Zoete Wedd, the broker, has stated that the shares would have plummeted to below 100p on the abysmal figures if the possibility of a bid had not arisen, and the downside if one does not eventually materialize is considerable.

to more than 20 Scottish fund managers at a meeting with James Capel, the broker, in Edinburgh. Last week he held a similar get-together with Morgan Grenfell.

General Shareholder 10% cent stake in Cadbury Schweppes to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission

335½p on turnover of 9.5

Analysts are doubtful that General Cinema will launch a bid.

scenario being put forward is that Jacobs Suchard, the Swiss chocolate group, will sell its 30% stake in

Michael Clark and Geoffrey Foster

TRADITIONAL OPTIONS

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[illegible]

Curtiss W	48%	49%	Monsanto	80%	80%	Agrieco Esg	18	17%
						Alican Alum	34	34

[illegible]

EQUITIES	Porvair (78p)	83 +2
	Reinn	138 +1

Orbit P/P	189-1	Reliable Prop.	173
Sprint Post (80p)	71	Resort Hotels (14p)	17
Central Motor (80p)	71	Roskie	128
Clinton Cars (150p)	171-1	TGI (130p)	128
Jagenham Motors	715	Top Nip (135p)	137-1
Julidae Jenkins (85p)	103	Victoria (23p)	256-2
Freeman Go	231-2	Vosper Thorspy (180p)	170
163-2	163-2		
Dowett Amer		RIGHTS ISSUES	
Handley Walker	145-2	Alphabetic N/P	34-2
Holders Tech (140p)	148	Asra N/P	34-1
Johnson (120p)	111-2	BP of Ireland N/P	135-3
Little (80p)	83	Barclays N/P	3-1
GW	75-2	Lincoln N/P	3-1
Kent Mgmt New	120-3	Pineapple N/P	18
Microtec	91	Scania N/P	16-4
Northfield Est	180	Scat-Son N/P	15
Norris Aubrey (90p)	19-1	West Trust N/P	40
RP (175p)			
Stannard			
Stannard			

First Dealings	Last Dealings	Last Declaration	For Announcement
May 3	May 13	July 26	August 8

Call options were taken out on: 10/5/88 Rascal, ASM Group, BP and, North Karan, Mines, BRH, Mineral Estates, Northern Foods, Burford Group, Arco Energy, Tylon Power, BSH International, Eagle Trust, Cambian Ventures, Corral Technology, Hazo, Queensway, Countryside, Helical Bar, Blacks Leisure, Holmes Protection, Rata & Cals, Booth, ASM Group, Northern Foods.

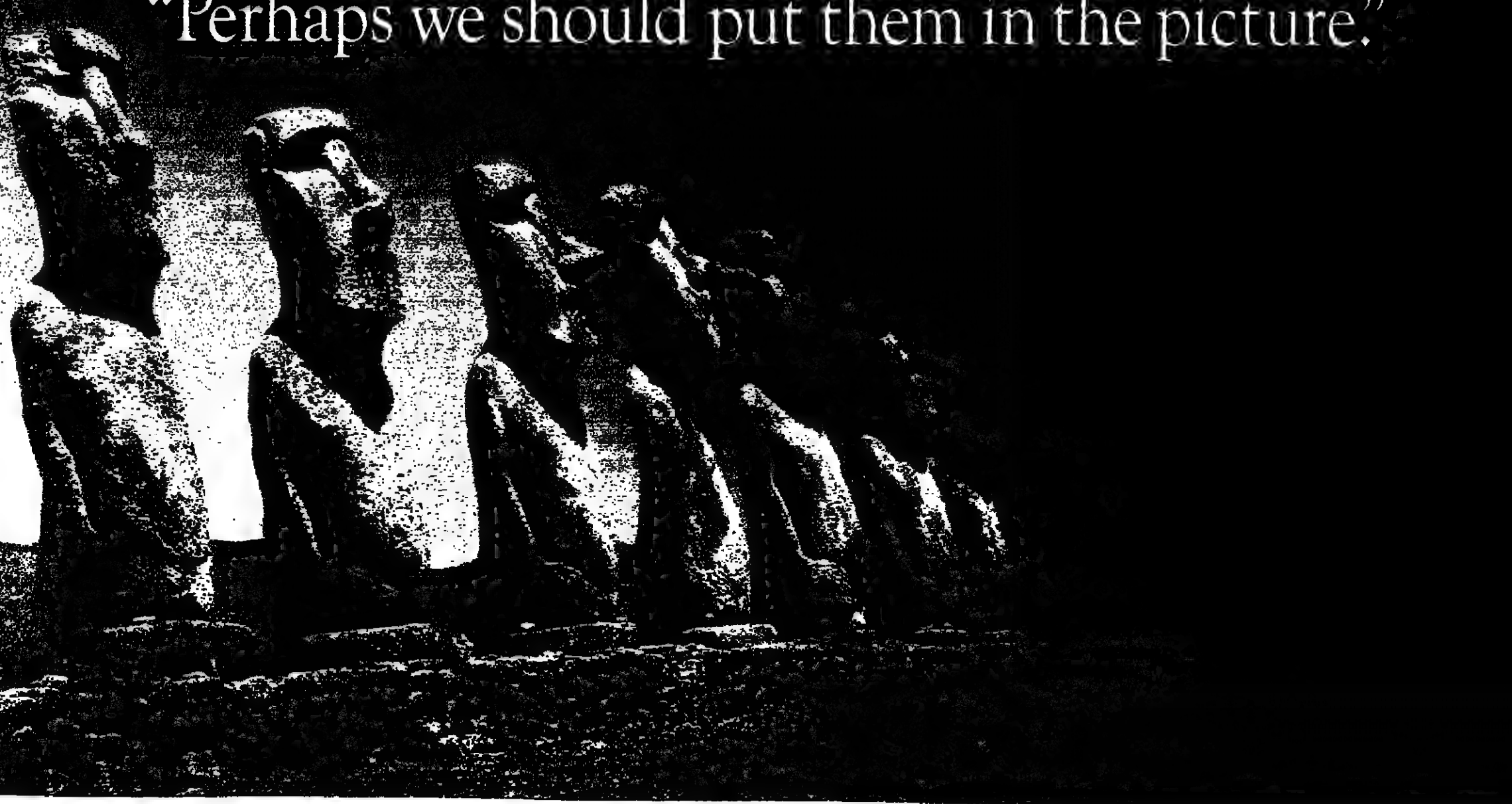
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Grand Tot.	320	330	340	350	360	370	380	390	400	410	420	430	440	450	460	470	480	490	500	510	520	530	540	550	560	570	580	590	600	610	620	630	640	650	660	670	680	690	700	710	720	730	740	750	760	770	780	790	800	810	820	830	840	850	860	870	880	890	900	910	920	930	940	950	960	970	980	990	1000
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(101)	320	330	340	350	360	370	380	390	400	410	420	430	440	450	460	470	480	490	500	510	520	530	540	550	560	570	580	590	600	610	620	630	640	650	660	670	680	690	700	710	720	730	740	750	760	770	780	790	800	810	820	830	840	850	860	870	880	890	900	910	920	930	940	950	960	970	980	990	1000
(101)	320	330	340	350	360	370	380	390	400	410	420	430	440	450	460	470	480	490	500	510	520	530	540	550	560	570	580	590	600	610	620	630	640	650	660	670	680	690	700	710	720	730	740	750	760	770	780	790	800	810	820	830	840	850	860	870	880	890	900	910	920	930	940	950	960	970	980	990	1000
(101)	320	330	340	350	360	370	380	390	400	410	420	430	440	450	460	470	480	490	500	510	520	530	540	550	560	570	580	590	600	610	620	630	640	650	660	670	680	690	700	710	720	730	740	750	760	770	780	790	800	810	820	830	840	850	860	870	880	890	900	910	920	930	940	950	960	970	980	990	1000
(101)	320	330	340	350	360	370	380	390	400	410	420	430	440	450	460	470	480	490	500	510	520	530	540	550	560	570	580	590	600	610	620	630	640	650	660	670	680	690	700	710	720	730	740	750	760	770	780	790	800	810	820	830	840	850	860	870	880	890	900	910	920	930	940	950	960	970	980	990	1000
(101)	320	330	340	350	360	370	380	390	400	410	420	430	440	450	460	470	480	490	500	510	520	530	540	550	560	570	580	590	600	610	620	630	640	650	660	670	680	690	700	710	720	730	740	750	760	770	780	790	800	810	820	830	840	850	860	870	880	890	900	910	920	930	940	950	960	970	980	990	1000
(101)	320	330	340	350	360	370	380	390	400	410	420	430	440	450	460	470	480	490	500	510	520	530	540	550	560	570	580	590	600	610	620	630	640	650	660	670	680	690	700	710	720	730	740	750	760	770	780	790	800	810	820	830	840	850	860	870	880	890	900	910	920	930	940	950	960	970	980	990	1000
(101)	320	330	340	350	360	370	380	390	400	410	420	430	440	450	460	470	480	490	500	510	520	530	540	550	560	570	580	590	600	610	620	630	640	650	660	670	680	690	700	710	720	730	740	750	760	770	780	790	800	810	820	830	840	850	860	870	880	890	900	910	920	930	940	950	960	970	980	990	1000
(101)	320	330	340	350	360	370	380	390	400	410	420	430	440	450	460	470	480	490	500	510	520	530	540	550	560	570	580	590	600	610	620	630	640	650	660	670	680	690	700	710	720	730	740	750	760	770	780	790	800	810	820	830	840	850	860	870	880	890	900	910	920	930	940	950	960	970	980	990	1000
(101)	320	330	340	350	360	370	380	390	400	410	420	430	440	450	460	470	480	490	500	510	520	530	540	550	560	570	580	590	600	610	620	630	640	650	660	670	680	690	700	710	720	730	740	750	760	770	780	790	800	810	820	830	840	850	860	870	880	890	900	910	920	930	940	950	960	970	980	990	1000
(101)	320	330	340	350	360	370	380	390	400	410	420	430	440	450	460	470	480	490	500	510	520	530	540	550	560	570	580	590	600	610	620	630	640	650	660	670	680	690	700	710	720	730	740	750	760	770	780	790	800	810	820	830	840	850	860	870	880	890	900	910	920	930	940	950	960	970	980	990	1000
(101)	320	330	340	350	360	370	380	390	400	410	420	430	440	450	460	470	480	490	500	510	520	530	540	550	560	570	580	590	600	610	620	630	640	650	660	670	680	690	700	710	720	730	740	750	760	770	780	790	800	810	820	830	840	850	860	870	880	890	900	910	920	930	940	95					

[illegible]

“Perhaps we should put them in the picture.”



But then they'd rather fly KLM than any other airline.
Even if it's only to Amsterdam.

The Reliable Airline **KLM**
Royal Dutch Airlines

FLY DIRECT FROM 25 UK AND IRELAND AIRPORTS TO SCHIPHOL AND CONNECT WITH KLM'S WORLDWIDE NETWORK. ASK YOUR TRAVEL AGENT OR CALL KLM ON 01-666 9144

[illegible]

1980 High Company Prev Change % P/E										1980 High Company Prev Change % P/E										1980 High Company Prev Change % P/E										1980 High Company Prev Change % P/E									
2	7	A&M Inc	360	11	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	180	10	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	312	20	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0		
3	8	A&M Sol	360	11	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	180	10	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	312	20	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	
4	9	A&M Sol	360	11	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	180	10	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	312	20	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	
5	10	A&M Sol	360	11	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	180	10	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	312	20	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	
6	11	A&M Sol	360	11	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	180	10	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	312	20	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	
7	12	A&M Sol	360	11	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	180	10	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	312	20	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	
8	13	A&M Sol	360	11	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	180	10	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	312	20	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	
9	14	A&M Sol	360	11	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	180	10	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	312	20	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	
10	15	A&M Sol	360	11	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	180	10	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	312	20	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	
11	16	A&M Sol	360	11	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	180	10	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	312	20	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	
12	17	A&M Sol	360	11	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	180	10	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	312	20	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	
13	18	A&M Sol	360	11	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	180	10	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	312	20	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	
14	19	A&M Sol	360	11	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	180	10	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	312	20	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	
15	20	A&M Sol	360	11	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	180	10	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	312	20	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	
16	21	A&M Sol	360	11	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	180	10	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	312	20	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	
17	22	A&M Sol	360	11	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	180	10	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	312	20	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	
18	23	A&M Sol	360	11	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	180	10	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	312	20	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	
19	24	A&M Sol	360	11	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	180	10	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	312	20	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	
20	25	A&M Sol	360	11	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	180	10	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	312	20	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	
21	26	A&M Sol	360	11	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	180	10	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	312	20	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	
22	27	A&M Sol	360	11	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	180	10	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	312	20	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	
23	28	A&M Sol	360	11	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	180	10	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	312	20	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	
24	29	A&M Sol	360	11	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	180	10	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	312	20	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	
25	30	A&M Sol	360	11	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	180	10	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	312	20	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	
26	31	A&M Sol	360	11	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	180	10	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	312	20	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	
27	32	A&M Sol	360	11	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	180	10	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	312	20	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	
28	33	A&M Sol	360	11	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	180	10	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	312	20	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	
29	34	A&M Sol	360	11	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	180	10	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	312	20	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	
30	35	A&M Sol	360	11	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	180	10	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	312	20	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	
31	36	A&M Sol	360	11	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	180	10	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	312	20	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	
32	37	A&M Sol	360	11	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	180	10	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	312	20	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	
33	38	A&M Sol	360	11	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	180	10	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	312	20	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	
34	39	A&M Sol	360	11	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	180	10	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	312	20	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	
35	40	A&M Sol	360	11	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	180	10	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	312	20	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	
36	41	A&M Sol	360	11	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	180	10	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	312	20	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	
37	42	A&M Sol	360	11	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	180	10	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	312	20	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	
38	43	A&M Sol	360	11	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	180	10	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	312	20	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	
39	44	A&M Sol	360	11	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	180	10	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	312	20	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	
40	45	A&M Sol	360	11	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0																														

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01-481 4481

LA CRÈME DE LA CRÈME

01-481 4481

BILINGUAL
MANAGER
£14,000

An enthusiastic self-starter is urgently needed for this highly responsible & challenging position. Good commercial awareness is essential as you will be dealing with promotion of the company product. Must be conversant in Italian & French & have good typing. A career position with plenty of scope. (See card)

CITY: 01-481 2345
WEST END: 01-481 2264
VICTORIA: 01-834 7787

MD'S PA
£13,000 + Mot

This internationally famous finance company is seeking a competent PA/Sec (21+) to assist one of their Senior Directors. This is a true PA role of the most serious of the world & offers excellent working conditions and a superb salary package including a substantial mortgage, sports facilities and 55.5% life cover.

CITY: 01-481 2345
WEST END: 01-481 2264
VICTORIA: 01-834 7787

TASTE OF
SUCCESS
£12,000

A position joined with variety awaits you when you join this exciting international Co. You should have SH and skills, be a good communicator, & enjoy a people environment. A fabulous opportunity awaits you. (See card)

CITY: 01-481 2345
WEST END: 01-481 2264
VICTORIA: 01-834 7787

GO FOR GOLD!
£11,000

The head office of this prestigious Mining Co seeks a PA/Sec with initiative to assist their highly motivated & energetic Director. The ability to handle all levels of correspondence in a fast-paced environment is essential. A position offering true potential. (See card)

CITY: 01-481 2345
WEST END: 01-481 2264
VICTORIA: 01-834 7787

INTERNATIONAL
DESIGN
£12,000

A unique opportunity has arisen within this rapidly expanding Design Company for a number of young people to create a career.

CITY: 01-481 2345
WEST END: 01-481 2264
VICTORIA: 01-834 7787

TRAVEL USA 10+
£10,000 +

A fabulous opportunity to start your own business in the USA. The American Travel Company, a leading travel agency, is seeking a young person with initiative, energy and a good knowledge of the USA to join their team. A superb career move. (See card)

CITY: 01-481 2345
WEST END: 01-481 2264
VICTORIA: 01-834 7787

MARKETING
£12,000

An ambitious and confident person is required to join this modern and fast-paced Marketing & Advertising Co. as a Marketing Executive. A professional career opportunity is offered to a young person with initiative, energy and a good knowledge of the USA to join their team. A superb career move. (See card)

CITY: 01-481 2345
WEST END: 01-481 2264
VICTORIA: 01-834 7787

PROPERTY PA
£13,000 + bene

This thriving property Co seeks an enthusiastic & lively PA to assist the Partner and become fully involved in the development of the company. Demonstrates your ability as a PA and become a member of the company. (See card)

CITY: 01-481 2345
WEST END: 01-481 2264
VICTORIA: 01-834 7787

EXECUTIVE PA
£11,000 + CAR

A superb career opportunity has arisen for a dynamic PA/Sec to assist the Partner and become fully involved in the development of the company. Demonstrates your ability as a PA and become a member of the company. (See card)

CITY: 01-481 2345
WEST END: 01-481 2264
VICTORIA: 01-834 7787

ADVERTISING
£10,000

A bright & energetic person with initiative is required to join this exciting advertising Co. as a PA/Sec. A superb career move. (See card)

CITY: 01-481 2345
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If you have fast, accurate typing - with or without WP skills - and are looking for varied fun jobs in the City and West End, call us now on

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up to £12,000

Oil Industry

Working for Jawaby Oil Service at our prestigious offices in the West End, you will become part of a busy team in our personnel section. This key secretarial position requires an efficient, well organised and confident individual. Dealing with all levels of employees, especially senior management, you should have excellent communication and interpersonal skills. First-class typing/good shorthand speeds (50/70 wpm) are essential and duties will also include a variety of administrative tasks. In addition you must possess 'O' levels in English and Maths. Candidates are likely to be aged 23-30, with a minimum of two years' secretarial experience.

Our excellent benefits package includes 25 days' annual holiday, free life assurance, private health cover, season ticket loan facility, contributory pension scheme and multi-gym membership.

Please forward a handwritten letter of application enclosing your typewritten C.V. to the Personnel Officer, Umm Al-Jawaby Oil Service Co. Ltd., 33 Cavendish Square, London W1M 9HF.



JAWABY OIL SERVICE

bilingual french
secretary £14,000+

This rapidly growing London based offshoot of a thriving french finance Company is looking for a smart, efficient Secretary to work with two charming Directors in their new West End offices.

You have the ability to present the Company image and liaise at high level with tact and discretion together with good french (english mother tongue preferred). Be prepared to compose your own correspondence, work independently and enjoy a pressurised atmosphere. Opportunities for job development abound, delegation is frequent and involvement in the Company essential. Typing (50 wpm) and Audio rec. Age 25+.

TATE APPOINTMENTS
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Tate
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Smart Secretaries
can keep fit at OXY

circa £10,500pa

Victoria

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Probably in your mid 20's, with 3-4 years' experience, you will have good typing and shorthand ability (min 60/80 wpm). And you will certainly be smart and gifted with the initiative and enthusiasm to keep pace and progress in a high flying team.

In addition to a generous starting salary we provide a wide range of benefits, including car parking, season ticket loan, life assurance and pension scheme. And for toning-up and winding down - we have an on-site fitness centre (and a convivial social club).

If you meet our criteria, and you'd like to know how we shape up to yours, send your comprehensive cv to Employee Relations, Occidental International Oil Inc, 16 Palace Street, London SW1E 5BQ.

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INTERESTS

High profile liaison with overseas dignitaries and government heads will develop your diplomatic skills as PA. Supporting the Group MD of this South London based international construction company, you will demonstrate the maturity and organisational flair necessary to develop and handle systems plus extensive travel arrangements to a tight schedule.

Your full complement of secretarial skills, including WP proficiency, will be the product of solid previous board level experience, providing a foundation for a professional approach. Remuneration: £15,000 salary plus benefits and parking facilities. Telephone 01-499 0092; 173 New Bond Street, London W1Y 9PB.

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Come in at VIP level - the very pinnacle of power in this major UK plc. By far the greater part of your involvement will be in office administration supporting the Office Manager; organising catering services; implementing policy changes; negotiating contracts etc. Additionally you will administer manpower planning and personnel development. Excellent organisational ability and previous experience in a supervisory role essential. Confident communication skills and sound typing (50 wpm) requested. Age 24-35. Call 01-493 0713

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requires a full time mature secretary with good typing and general office skills. Salary according to qualifications.

Tel: 01-828 8265/6.

SECRETARY
CLOTHING INDUSTRY
West End of London

We are one of the Country's leading clothing manufacturers with units and offices nationwide. We are looking for an experienced, efficient, capable secretary with a meticulous eye for detail to work for our Chief Executive and Finance Executive. You will need to have excellent basic skills in shorthand and word processing, be able to organise diaries, liaise with other senior management, prioritise, work under pressure and have a sense of humour. The work will be varied but you will need to have an interest in financial information. You will attend meetings, take and draft minutes. Working in a modern and recently refurbished environment your benefits will include competitive salary, subsidised restaurant, pension scheme, BUPA and 20 days annual leave.

If you are interested please apply in writing, enclosing full CV, to:
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To £18,000 pa
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Temporaries

We are now looking for experienced word processing secretaries to join our team of elite professionals. We can offer you:

- Up to £7.50 per hour
- Overtime pay
- A choice of London's top assignments
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To join our team of valued, high calibre secretaries, please call Ruth Mills on 01-631 0479

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Lively intelligent person with secretarial skills required to assist a Director of a specialist Estate Agent handling property investments. Young graduate who is numerate, prefers Previous experience of Expatriate lifestyle and knowledge of micro-computers and residential property mortgages an advantage, but not essential. Salary according to age and experience. c £12,000

Tel 01-734-5326
Ask for Ted Asquith.
Japan Services Property

LITIGATION SECRETARY
£12,500

Small, friendly Covent Garden solicitors require a Secretary to work for the Litigation Partner. We are looking for someone who has worked at Partner level with good audio and administrative skills. Sense of humour a distinct advantage! A knowledge of A&S WP is useful but we are prepared to cross train.

Please telephone Julia Barnett on:
01 379 4422
for further details
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Young, keen, shorthand Secretary to work for leading Design & Decorators, SW London. Loss of admin. Call Alice on 408-1631

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Specialist Agency offers rewarding package and benefits to proven T.C. Please telephone in strictest confidence to Andy Bell on 01 387 8285



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Finance and Legal Personnel Specialists

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We are looking for a mature PA/Secretary to provide a full secretarial, and administrative back-up to one of our Partners whose work is primarily based in the Private Client and Charitable areas. It is important that the successful applicant has the ability to work to tight deadlines whilst still maintaining a high level of accuracy. Use of initiative, commonsense and an ability to work under pressure are more important qualities than legal experience. The position will appeal to those who enjoy work of a technical nature. Farrer & Co is a 30 Partner firm with newly refurbished offices, situated conveniently close to Holborn underground and within a few minutes walk of Covent Garden. If you are interested in applying please contact Miss Delia Taylor for an application form on Tel: 01-242 2022 or write to her with a full CV to the address below.

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STEP INTO A
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Join this large international Public Relations/Design Group as the indispensable right-hand to their energetic and charming Chief Executive. Your first-class organisational skills will be put to excellent use as you arrange his very busy diary, complex travel itineraries and meetings, occasionally organise social functions, liaise extensively with other members of the Group and provide full secretarial support. Flexibility, charm and a sense of humour together with senior level experience and good skills (80/40/60/WP) will ensure you make a vital contribution in this busy office. Age 26-35. Please call 434 4512

Crone Corkill

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BROOMWOOD HALL
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Secretary to Headmistress required, would suit mature person. School hours term only. Salary negotiable.

Please ring 01 673 1616

SECRETARY

We require an enthusiastic secretary to work in our busy Kensington office. Agency fee/hand is essential. S.A.A.E. 01-235 8867

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EXCELLENT PROSPECTS
£11,500

Lots of scope to make your mark here and follow projects through from start to finish. You'll be responsible for your own research, liaise with top people and assist your boss in all aspects of building this business. Excellent opportunity for someone with initiative and ambition.

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If you are looking for a young, fun and trendy company, enjoy being part of a team and have a lively personality then these Graphic Designers could be for you. No typing and full switchboard training.

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Temps - £14,200 p.a.

All our temps are paid this rate

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We offer:

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- ★ £200 holiday bonus - no strings attached

You need:

- ★ 100 wpm shorthand
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- ★ Two years' Director level secretarial experience in London
- ★ Proficient WP skills on at least one machine
- ★ Enthusiasm and a professional approach

Please telephone 01-434 4512 now for an appointment.

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NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM
South Kensington
London SW7

A personal secretary is required for the Museum's Head of Marketing and Development Unit.

This post calls for a person with secretarial skills and preferably previous experience as a Personal Secretary. The successful candidate, who will be an energetic person with a pleasant and tactful personality, will be expected to work on her or his own and to take responsibility. An ability to handle material of a confidential nature is essential and previous experience of word processing or a willingness to learn is desirable.

Minimum qualifications: 3 GCE 'O' level passes, including English Language, Shorthand 100 wpm, Typing 30 wpm.

Possibility of a starting salary above the minimum of the scale of £8334 per annum rising by 4 annual increments to £9773 pa. Additional shorthand and typing proficiency payments can be earned. 5 day, 41 hour week (including lunch hours), 4 weeks 2 days paid holiday plus 10% Public and privilege holidays.

Apply in writing with curriculum vitae to: Mrs A. F. Farnsworth, British Museum (Natural History), Cromwell Road, London SW7 5BD. Tel: 01-434 9441

The British Museum (Natural History) is an equal opportunity employer.

KING EDWARD'S HOSPITAL
FUND FOR LONDONPERSONAL ASSISTANT
TO THE SECRETARY/
CHIEF EXECUTIVE
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Applications are invited for the most senior and demanding secretarial role in the King's Fund, the leading charitable health care foundation.

We need an efficient and enthusiastic person, with excellent secretarial skills, good organising ability, a pleasant personality and ability to withstand pressure. Knowledge of the health field is an advantage.

This is an interesting and varied post offering the successful candidate considerable scope for career development. Working conditions are good. Four lunches are currently provided and an interest free loan can be for season tickets is available.

Salary: £10,589 - £12,977 (plus London Weighting £1,287) pa plus Scale 9

For further information and an application form, please contact Judy Funn on 01-727 6581 ext 2191. Alternatively you can send your CV to:

Robert J. Marshall
Secretary
King Edward's Hospital Fund for London
14 Palace Court, London W2 4HT

Closing date for applications: Friday, 3 June 1988

Shortlisted candidates will be interviewed on 9 July.

The King's Fund is working towards equal opportunities

Mary Overton

VARIATIONS
ON A THEME
OF £13,000

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Never in our experience have so many large salaries chased so many good Secs. Like headhunters offering £15,000 for someone with a bent for PR and marketing. An hotel paying the same for a whizz who has admin ability, too. Likewise, a company selling healthcare. Many others, all at £13,000 - some at £14,000, even. Summer hole bookers? They'll all honour them. Overdraft/credit card problem? Work your way out of them fast. Just come rattle our money box. It makes music. Ring NOW!

EARN
c£14200 pa

Become a Temporary Secretary.
Skills 90/50 + W.P.
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Call 439 0601 now!

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& COPY TYPISTS

Excellent salaries & conditions

Expanding City based Property Practice requires secretaries and typists with WP experience for busy and varied positions. At Partner level, shorthand preferred but not essential. All vacancies require fast accurate typing and ability to work under pressure.

DOCKLANDS SITE SECRETARY

c£10,000

Experienced WP secretary required for Docklands Site Office. Working for one Project Manager, applicants must have proven experience and be prepared to work on their own.

Ring for further details or send CV to:
Annabelle Lawrence, AYH Partnership
40 Clifton Street, London EC2A 4AY

Tel: 01-377 6686

PRUDENTIAL HOLBORN

RECEPTIONIST

A prestigious front line role in the
finance sector

c£10,000 + valuable benefits London W1

Prudential Holborn is setting the pace in offering products targeted at affluent individual investors. Ours is a prestigious and growing business co-ordinated from our Head Offices in London's West End.

For this key role we need a first-class Receptionist capable of reflecting the dynamism and integrity of the Company both on the telephone and in person. Therefore you will need to display considerable personal and professional skills.

Working alongside another experienced Receptionist, you will be the vital first point of contact for visitors and clients and will operate a small switchboard, ensuring a friendly yet efficient service is maintained at all times.

Of smart appearance and with a confident manner, you will already have relevant experience within a major organisation and will now be keen to develop your talents in a fast-moving, successful financial services environment.

In addition to an excellent salary, you will also receive valuable finance sector benefits including non-contributory pension scheme and a low interest mortgage after a qualifying period.

If you have the high-calibre approach we need, please telephone or write enclosing full CV to: Hilary Cunningham, Personnel Officer, Prudential Holborn Limited, 30 Old Burlington Street, London W1X 1LB. Tel: 01-439 3134.

SENIOR P.A. TO EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

PACKAGE TO £19,000

Senior management level position from a financial institution combined with excellent social skills is sought by a leading international bank. Working for a Senior Director in a fast-paced, well-organised and varied, if you have excellent presentation and speech, a sense of humour and a willingness to be at the heart of everything you will be rewarded with a top basic salary and excellent benefits.

COLLEGE LEAVERS
c£5,500 + BANKING BENEFITS
The prestigious financial institution in the City needs a junior secretarial (80-90 wpm 'O' or 'A' Levels) to work in their elegant surroundings. The ideal candidate will be well-presented, well-organised and have an outgoing personality. Excellent benefits for the successful applicant.

SECRETARY IN P.A.
£10,000 + BENEFITS
The P.A. division of a large bank needs a bright, bubbly secretary with good general knowledge of bank and WP experience. If you are the 'City' type who works in banking P.A. please call now.

WANG W.P. OPERATOR
PACKAGE TO £12,000 (14h)
Experienced Wang Operator required by major international merchant bank to type documents, reports, minutes and so on. Very responsible, requiring excellent presentation and fast accurate typing. The right applicant will receive excellent basic salary and a bonus package.

Call Fiona Boyne/Tracy Whitfield on 01-588 7287

JOSLIN ROWE

111 Great Street, 11 Woodfield Rd, London EC2A 3JH. Tel: 01-588 7287

Stockbroker's
Assistant

We are a leading American Finance House based in the City and currently have a vacancy for a Stockbroker's Assistant.

Working closely with the broker, you will be liaising with clients, keeping accurate records of trades and assisting the broker in all aspects of her work. The job also includes some secretarial work.

You should have a pleasant telephone manner, a sense of humour and be educated to at least 'A' level standard. No experience of stockbroking is required but you must be numerate and have a minimum of one year's secretarial experience. You will need accurate typing and shorthand: minimum speeds of 40 wpm and 80 wpm are required. Word processing experience would be an advantage.

We are offering a competitive salary, together with free medical insurance, Luncheon Vouchers, Company pension scheme and four weeks' holidays.

For an application form please either ring Mrs Sharon Jay on 01-480 8531 (24 hour answering), or write to her at 56 Leadenhall Street, London EC3A 2JH.

DEAN WITTER REYNOLDS

SECRETARY/RECEPTIONIST

DENHAM

c. £10,500 pa

Expanding helicopter company seeks capable, enthusiastic person with at least two years office experience, good typing (Wang WP) and shorthand, for involving job in small, friendly team. Languages an advantage. Own transport essential.

Please send a written CV with daytime telephone number to Elizabeth Testa

EUROPEAN HELICOPTERS LIMITED
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To £12,000 plus benefits

Our client, an influential, highly-successful Executive Search Consultancy specialising in Chairman level recruiting, offers a superb opening for an articulate, socially-confident individual. Working alongside their new Director of Research you will handle extensive VIP liaison; organise and attend client lunches, parties; undertake some market research; co-ordinate office admin etc. Quietly busy environment. Stylish country house offices boasting panoramic views. Sound skills (audio preferred) pre-requisite. Age 22+. Call 01-493 5787.

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Recruitment Consultants

Multi-talented Spirit?

To £12,000 - P.R.

Enter the fast-paced world of PR with this new young Consultancy Working alongside their innovative MD in a challenging start up situation, your front-line role will include extensive VIP client liaison - the company is set to launch a huge new business drive - setting up systems co-ordinating mailshots helping to design corporate brochures etc. PR or related experience vital. Career prospects are enormous. You must be of exceptional calibre a strong personality and possess sound (audio) skills. Call 01-499 1232.

Reinhold Consultants
to the Communications Industry

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REINOLD CONSULTANTS

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Bored of secretarial work? An exciting and challenging position has become available in our Pimlico and Docklands offices - to manage their large portfolio of furnished properties. Experience not essential but common sense definitely is! Salary negotiable. Phone or write to Deborah Nash, Lettings Manager, Prudential Property Services, 23 Sussex Street, London SW1V 4PR.

Tel: 01-834 9986

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Property Services

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LEADING LADY
£13,500 PLUS BONUS

A PRESTIGIOUS AND CHALLENGING ROLE IN THIS HIGHLY SUCCESSFUL INTERNATIONAL BANK. WORKING ONE-TO-ONE WITH THE HEAD OF SYNDICATES. TAKE CONTROL OF THE CAPITAL MARKETS DEPARTMENT; LIAISING AT ALL LEVELS AND PROVIDING FULL ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT. POISE AND INITIATIVE COMBINED WITH EXCELLENT SECRETARIAL SKILLS ARE ESSENTIAL. Call 01-493 0713 FOR DETAILS.

GORDON-YATES - JR. JR. JR.

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P.A. TO DIRECTOR

Our client, a prominent international merchant bank, is seeking an assistant for their Company Secretary. In his mid 40's, he is a friendly and approachable man who will give the successful applicant every support to make this genuine career move. The minimal secretarial content of the position will enable his assistant to develop this truly administrative role to the full. A calm and confident approach, together with initiative and excellent communications skills are essential. Previous experience gained within a Company Secretarial office would be a distinct advantage.

Skills: 90/60
Age indicator: 26-30
Please Telephone 01-439 6477

Company Secretary

£14,000 + mortgage subsidy

MacBlain Nash
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Salary neg + profit sharing

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The right applicant will have an extrovert personality yet remain cool, calm and collected when busy. In return for your hard work Ecco can provide you with good career prospects, stability (most of our staff have been with the company over 5 years) and excellent backup.

If you enjoy working in the recruitment industry, know you are good at your job but always feel insecure and unrewarded then ring me on 439 8311 or 04023 77277 between 7 and 9 pm. Mrs Karen Morgan.

Secretary to Personnel Director - mid to late 20's

Strand

c. £12,000

The Director of Personnel and Administration for Arthur Andersen Management Consultants is looking for a personal secretary to take over from his current secretary who is leaving to have a baby. He needs someone with excellent shorthand and typing skills, a good sense of humour, the ability to remain calm under pressure and who is able to work on their own initiative.

For the successful applicant the job will be stimulating and satisfying and will provide an

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If you feel you match these requirements and want to move to a more involved secretarial role, please write with your detailed CV and daytime telephone number to:

Mrs Carole Dallimore
Recruiting Officer,
Arthur Andersen
Management Consultants,
2 Arundel Street,
London WC2R 3LL

ARTHUR
ANDERSEN
& CO.
Management Consultants

Personal Assistant/Secretary

Balfour Beatty Limited, the successful multi discipline Engineering and Construction Company, are looking for a top class Personal Assistant/Secretary to work for the Group Managing Director at their offices based just outside Croydon at Thornton Heath.

A well presented, highly organised and self disciplined person, you should be capable of combining these qualities with the complete range of secretarial skills including shorthand and basic modern office technology.

As Personal Assistant, you will be assisted by a secretary and must be capable of dealing with a high volume of administrative work in a busy environment, and be calm, hardworking and resilient, possessing the strong social and communication skills, diplomacy and enthusiasm needed to work at main Board level.

In return, we can offer you an attractive salary and benefits package reflecting the high standards we are seeking. Interested? Please apply to: Odette L F Barry, Personnel Officer, Balfour Beatty Limited, Mayday Road, Thornton Heath, Surrey CR4 7XA.

Balfour Beatty
A BICC Company

EXECUTIVE SEARCH PA

Sadly, I will be leaving my boss soon. I have promised to find my replacement before I go. As a Senior Partner, he is a man who will ask your opinion, rely on your judgement, and delegate as much as you can take. He is great fun to work with, but in return expects excellent personal and work presentation.

This is a very confidential PA role and you will probably not be aged under 23.

As part of one of the largest International Search organisations, we are a small, friendly office of 12 people, working in lovely surroundings in Buckingham Gate SW1.

My boss is offering an excellent salary and good personal benefits to the right person. Why not call me, Joanna, for further information and a confidential chat on 834 7866 or send me your CV:

Joanna Tulip
The Caldwell Partners International
29 Buckingham Gate, London SW1 8NF

THE AMERICAN COLLEGE IN LONDON

100 Marylebone Lane, W1M 5FR

Seeks to fill the following positions:

1. Assistant to Director of Education
2. Assistant Registrar

Both positions require someone of a good level of education, preferably a graduate. A professional manner and good office/hyping skills are essential as well as the ability to work under pressure.

3. Part-time filing person to work 20 hours per week.

Please call as soon as possible on 01 486 1772.

PERSONNEL BACKGROUND?

£16-£30,000+

You have a minimum of 2 years experience of recruiting staff as a personnel officer or manager, plus a positive attitude and an enthusiastic personality. As a consultant with us you will manage your own desk but have the support of your colleagues. Your energy and expertise determine your job satisfaction, career progression and salary package of £16,000 - £30,000+.

Call Lyn Cecil on 377 8800.

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If you've got an overdose of adrenalin, you're the kind of secretary who will go far. Especially in the crazy world of advertising, film production and PR. In companies where your talents will not go unnoticed. The sort of companies that Amanda deals with. So for a completely confidential chat about your next career move, call Amanda today, on 379 7007.

Get yourself on the inside track.

Amanda

She's fussy, because you are. Call 379 7007

AMANDA BARRINGTON SECRETARIAL RECRUITMENT

THE ZARAK PARTNERSHIP

RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

DIRECTOR'S PA

£14,000 + MORTGAGE

A fantastic opportunity to expand your knowledge and use of computers within a state-of-the-art audio/visual system while at the same time providing full PA support to one of this influential company's top executives. The company is one of the fastest expanding in the country and opportunities abound for career advancement. Good media/PA skills, a solid background in media level and a good sense of humour essential. Please Apply Immediately.

01-486 6951

THE ZARAK PARTNERSHIP

RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

PERSONNEL IN ADVERTISING

£12,000

An admin assistant to the personnel director of this famous retail agency you will have with everyone from the MD to Junior Secretaries. Show visitors around the many floors, entertain at the company's wine bar and organise social events for the fun-loving staff. Ideally aged 22/25 with many shorthand, good typing and good interpersonal skills will secure you an interview. Please Apply Immediately.

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THE ZARAK PARTNERSHIP

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ADMINISTRATOR

£10,000 PACKAGE PLUS

This large brokerage requires a young male or female to participate in training programmes enabling you to develop a lucrative and interesting career. Insurance or banking experience would help. The salary stated is a conservative estimate and could be higher. Call Lynn Lall.

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THE ZARAK PARTNERSHIP

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LEAVING SECRETARIAL COLLEGE SOON?

We are a consultancy who specialises in career guidance as well as being able to channel business and ensure PAs into the major London companies. We advise in salary, career development and technique. Temporary positions include TV, Publishing and Advertising. We take great care to work in the best interests of both applicant and client. Please call us on 01-486 6951.

01-486 6951

Heathrow SECRETARY for AIRPORT PLANNING DIRECTOR

Heathrow is now acknowledged as the world's premier international airport and already we are planning for an even more successful future! Working at a senior level, you will provide a complete secretarial service including correspondence, office organisation and contact with people at all levels within BAA plc, the aviation industry and government bodies.

Our need is for an experienced Secretary with good shorthand and typing skills (100/40), a good command of the English language and the ability to communicate effectively both in writing and verbally. You should have the poise and confidence to work on your own initiative and the integrity to deal with confidential information in a busy and sometimes pressurised environment.

A starting salary package of around c. £10,000 p.a. is accompanied by the benefits you would expect from a major, successful company. Prospects for further career progression are excellent.

If you are interested in planning a better future for yourself, then write with a cv. to Miss L. Johnston, Room 261, Heathrow Airport Ltd., D'Albiac House, Heathrow Airport, Hounslow, Middx. TW6 1JH, or telephone her on 01-745 7326.



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Provisional, friendly Property Co. seek an extrovert person to work for their Personnel Manager. Must be willing to get involved in all aspects of recruitment and training & to provide strong admin & sec support. Audio and WP exp. nec.

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Beavers Ltd. (Rec Cons)

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c. £8,500-£9,000

One of Europe's leading computer companies, we are looking for a friendly, well presented person to help with the administration of our West End branch office.

The suitable candidate must be flexible and self-motivated, capable of dealing with both customers and staff and able to prioritise in times of pressure. Typing, and/or word processing skills are essential, as is experience of switchboard and general office routines.

This interesting and challenging position carries a remuneration package consisting of basic salary, bonuses, life assurance, private medical insurance and choice of pension schemes.

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As an admin. sec. for this small charity, you will be working for a dedicated Director in lively surroundings overlooking Regents Park. During your varied day you will be organising events, dealing with enquiries, attending and taking minutes at meetings and carrying out general office admin. including basic accounts work. Allow a highly administrative position you will need skills of 90/60wp, shorthand, in org. formal and lots of initiative.

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A highly successful and rapidly expanding computer software company needs a PA to the MD, whose responsibilities cover the UK and Europe.

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If you have several years' relevant experience and can show us the enthusiasm and dedication necessary to succeed in this fast-moving industry, then we can offer you an attractive range of benefits including 24 days holiday, pension scheme, interest free season ticket loan, luncheon vouchers and the use of our own in-house company swimming pool.

Interested? Then please telephone Jill Outram on 01-846 9000 Ext 2911.

English Tourist Board

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c. £10,000

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CHAIRMAN'S SECRETARY

£12,000 +

excellent benefits

This major hotel group is currently seeking a professional young secretary to assist a very human Personal Assistant to handle the varied affairs of this Captain of British Industry. You will need to be a confident self starter with a flexible nature and good presentation to fit into this executive environment. Minimum 2yrs. experience - skills 90/60.

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We also require an experienced secretary for two senior account managers. Again you will need excellent skills, and a cheerful ability to work under pressure.

Both positions offer an exciting working environment and top salaries.

If you think you can meet these requirements please send your CV to Mrs. Carolyn Meade, The Marketing Triangle Limited, 17 Newman Street, London, W1P 3HD.

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Make a vital contribution to the Sales and Marketing Department if this successful Wine Company as you co-ordinate and monitor the sales force to provide the best possible service to customers. Your varied duties will include liaison with customers, the production of monthly sales analyses, arranging wine tastings and other PR events, making hotel/travel arrangements and typing correspondence. An enthusiastic, flexible approach, desire to learn about the wine trade, sense of humour and skills of audio/50/WP essential. Knowledge of French helpful. Age 20+. Pleasant offices in NW10. Please call 434 4512

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We have an excellent career opportunity for someone who wants to work at the top. As a high profile member of a small, dynamic team you will be expected to use your initiative, and more responsibility will ensue as your knowledge of the company grows.

The Director leads the West End Office team and needs a friendly flexible person who can not only do the work but also join in the fun. NO SH but exc. typing + audio Age 21+

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RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY

Brighton's spring bloom

The town of Brighton is an enviable place, perhaps less so in high summer when the trippers pack it. But this versatile place is ideal for commuters, is minutes from the Downs and from Newhaven, the ferry port to France, and offers a grand variety of property. Its charms were rudely upset by the October hurricane that hit the South Coast, cut a swathe through its parks and gardens, wrecked rooftops and fences and left the house market in confusion. The damage to hundreds of properties caused sales to fall through and reduced the number of houses on the market while owners made vital repairs.

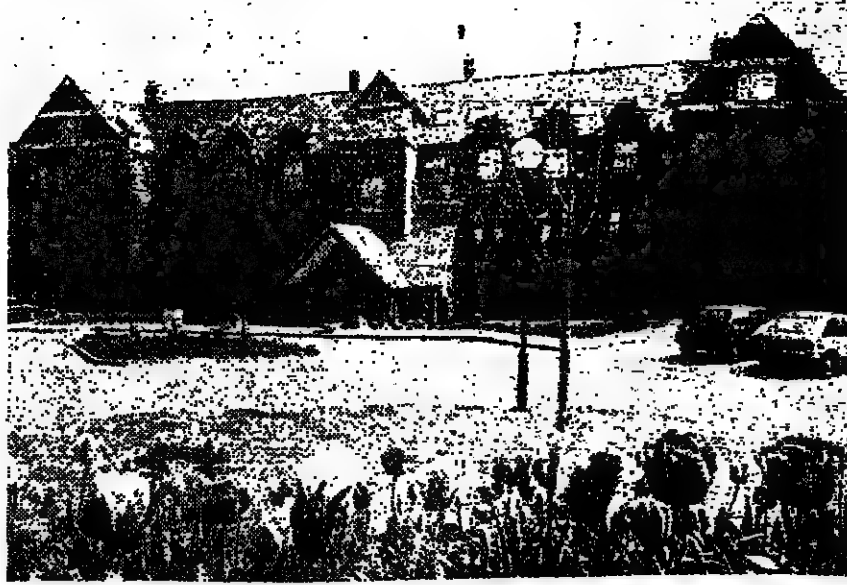
Colin Guden, director of Fox & Sons in Brighton, says the effects of the hurricane were more visual than fundamental, and although many trees were lost - as is obvious from the squares on the front and in Hove Park - the gaps left opened up views that had previously been obscured.

As much of Brighton and Hove is hilly, properties have benefited from this unexpected ill wind and the market in the area this spring has been consequently buoyant.

Although the hurricane did not cause its sudden appearance from among the trees, the Coach House, in Western Terrace, is a hidden delight in the centre of the Regency town, built for the nearby Sillwood House. The Coach House is at the end of a short cul-de-sac, minutes from the sea and close to the shops, where the other buildings are a scaled-down version of the Royal Pavilion known as the Western Pavilion and a Regency terrace that is soon to be renovated.

The detached house has been changed a great deal since the present owner bought it for around £125,000 two years ago. It has a new drawing room, and a roof terrace above it, with a dining room, a study and four bedrooms. There is also a secluded courtyard garden. This unusual property is for sale through Fox & Son for around £325,000.

Prices in the town have generally moved steadily up in the past year. In



Out of town: Rottingdean Place, a convent being converted into smart homes

Hove Park, the prime residential area, the comfortable four-bedroom house has increased from about £140,000 to £175,000 - and the buyer will probably want to modernize the kitchen if nothing else. The flat market, too, has increased markedly, by around 25 per cent, so that a first-time buyer paying £32,000 a year ago will now have to find £42,000.

Hove also has a number of more modern houses, built for the affluent. Fox & Sons has a house with four reception rooms and six bedrooms in Dyke Road Avenue, with a self-contained flat, set in two acres - again a rarity. It has a heated swimming pool, and the price is £750,000.

In the same area Fox & Sons is selling a recently built villa, Spanish-style, all white and tiled, a lavishly designed house that must be one of the most unusual in the town. It has a principal bedroom, three further bedrooms, two reception rooms, a granny flat, an indoor swimming pool and a jacuzzi. The price guide is £700,000-£750,000.

Brighton is, of course, a Regency town, and one of its finest houses is one of the

last in Lewes Crescent still in single occupation. The house, built in 1825 by Thomas Cubitt and Grade I listed, has recently been restored, emphasizing the plasterwork and architectural features. It has fine views of the sea and along the coast. The house has four reception rooms, six bedrooms, and a self-contained flat, and is for sale at around £550,000 through the Guildford office of Prudential Property Services' Prestige and Country Homes Division.

At Rottingdean, four miles from Brighton, Prudential Property Services' London office, with Clifford Dann & Partners, of Lewes, is selling a fascinating conversion of a convent with its chapel into a development of 37 flats, cottages and houses, a few of them newly built. The development is by British Land.

Rottingdean Place is a pioneer in the sort of smart development out of town that will appeal to people wanting a second or weekend home, living either in Britain or abroad. It could also be a main home to retired people who winter abroad. There is an emphasis on security, and entrance is through electrically controlled gates. Within the controlled perimeter the residents can enjoy facilities that include an all-weather tennis court, a large heated swimming pool, a sauna and a gym.

Communications are good for any escape - to France, to London or from Gatwick and Heathrow to anywhere else - and the cleverly designed flats, taking advantage of the views of the Downs where possible and incorporating the spaciousness of the chapel in some, make it an interesting choice. Of the 37 houses, 19 are left, ranging from one-bedroom apartments at £125,500 to a four-bedroom house at £239,900. Details are available on 0273 33906.

Christopher Warman
Property Correspondent

GREENLAND PASSAGE

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Greenland Passage is an outstanding development of stunning apartments, penthouses and fine town houses, which are ready to live in today.
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Robson is forced to delay the naming of squad

By Stuart Jones
Football Correspondent

England's preparations for the finals of the European football championship could be delayed by three weeks. Bobby Robson was expecting to assemble his squad this weekend, but instead it may not be fully complete until June 5, a mere seven days before the opening tie in West Germany against the Republic of Ireland.

So many of his representatives are unavailable for the first practice match, against Liverpool on Monday, that the outfield players not only pick themselves but have also had to be reinforced.

That much at least is clear. The rest of the condensed preparation programme is clouded in disruptive uncertainty and confusion.

The fate of four clubs will dictate whether England travel to West Germany as a settled unit or as a collection of comparative strangers. If, by next Wednesday night, the domestic season has effectively ended for Chelsea, Middlesbrough, Monaco and Liverpool, Robson will no longer be suffering from "a headache".

If Chelsea are knocked out of the first division play-offs by Blackburn Rovers, Dorco can be tested as under-study to Sansom. However, anyone who saw Dorco utterly embarrassed by Ward at Upton Park last week will believe that his promotion, enforced by the absence of the equally vulnerable Pearce, would be premature.

Robson admits that he has yet to decide whether he needs two left backs. Even if the uncapped Dorco temporarily takes over the role in the forthcoming weeks, it would be surprising if Mabbitt, who is more versatile, dependable and experienced, is excluded from the final party.

If Middlesbrough are removed from the play-offs by Bradford City, Pallister would be free to challenge for Butcher's place among the central defenders. Anyone who

ENGLAND SQUADS AND FIXTURES

ENGLAND SQUAD: P. Shilton (Derby County), C. Woods (Hampshire), D. Beasley (Everton), V. Adams (Manchester United), K. Sansom (Aston Villa), D. Watson (Everton), A. Adams (Aston Villa), G. Pallister (Middlesbrough), G. Robson (Manchester United), N. Webb (Nottingham Forest), P. Reid (Everton), T. Steven (Everton), G. Hoddle (Monaco), S. McMahon (Liverpool), P. Beardsley (Liverpool), J. Barnes (Liverpool), M. Hatten (Monaco), G. Lineker (Manchester City), A. Cottee (West Ham United), C. Waddle (Tottenham Hotspur), M. Harford (Luton). **FIXTURES:** v Liverpool, Arsenal, May 16 (probable team); P. Shilton, C. Woods or D. Beasley, G. Hoddle, A. Adams, D. Watson or M. Wright, K. Sansom, T. Steven, P. Reid, S. Robson, C. Waddle, M. Harford, A. Cottee. **Other matches:** v Scotland, Wembley, May 21; v Colombia, Wembley, May 24; v Switzerland, Lausanne, May 28.

ENGLAND UNDER-21 (v Switzerland): P. Suckling (Crystal Palace), N. Martin (Sheff Wed), C. Cooper (Middlesbrough), J. Dickie (West Ham United), G. Abbott (Liverpool), C. Fairclough (Tottenham Hotspur), S. Sellers (Blackburn Rovers), E. Sherrington (Middlesbrough), S. Ripley (Middlesbrough), B. Lowe (Ipswich Town), S. Samways (Tottenham Hotspur), S. Robson (West Ham United), Fairclough and Robson are over-age players.

ENGLAND UNDER-21 SQUAD (for Toulon tournament): G. Walsh (Manchester United), M. Thomas (Aston Villa), C. Cooper (Middlesbrough), J. Dickie (West Ham United), S. Redmond (Manchester City), S. Chadwell (Nottingham Forest), M. Keown (Aston Villa), D. Roca (Aston Villa), P. Gascoigne (Newcastle United), S. Beardsley (Everton), V. Samways (Tottenham Hotspur), S. Ripley (Middlesbrough), D. White (Manchester City), D. Smith (Coventry City), D. Hirst (Sheff Wed), P. Stewart (Manchester City), Keown and Stewart are over-age players.

FIXTURES: v Switzerland, Lausanne, May 28; under-21 tournament, Toulon, v Morocco, June 5; v Soviet Union, June 7; v Morocco, June 10.

ENGLAND UNDER-20 SQUAD: B. Home (Middlesbrough), K. Pressman (Sheff Wed), W. Aspinall (Aston Villa), D. Adams (Ipswich Town), D. Beasley (Leeds), I. Brightwell (Manchester City), J. Channing (Queen's Park Rangers), A. Doherty (Aston Villa), J. Elston (Everton), M. Flynn (Oxford United), M. Gabbadoni (Sunderland), A. Hinchcliffe (Manchester City), C. Leatham (Charlton Athletic), M. Le Tissier (Southampton), N. Ruddock (Tottenham Hotspur), S. Statham (Tottenham Hotspur), B. Tinson (Newcastle United). **FIXTURES:** v Brazil Under-19, June 7; v Olympic team, June 10; Regional select, June 14.

watched his international debut in Hungary last month will already be convinced that he is as promising as any of the three more senior candidates.

Should Chelsea and Middlesbrough both survive and qualify to meet each other, Robson says that he would still be prepared to take one of the youngsters to the European championship, but not both of them. Their clubs' defeat, therefore, could be either Dorico's or Pallister's gain.

Neither Hatten nor Hoddle will be released until Monaco have been crowned as the champions of France, where the season does not close until June 4. Unless they beat Nice on Friday and Bordeaux lose at home on Saturday, the pair will miss the games against Scotland and, possibly, Colombia.

Robson's plans are complicated enough, but they will be plunged into utter disarray if Liverpool are involved in a replay of the FA Cup final against Wimbledon next Thursday. Not only would Hansen's testimonial be postponed, but neither Barnes, Beardsley nor McMahon

would be available for selection against Scotland.

Robson had expected "everybody to have finished by May 7. To think that we didn't lose a single Saturday throughout the season. If the weather had been bad..." his voice trailed off as he imagined an even more puzzling picture.

"As we wouldn't have had a game for three weeks, the turnaround at Anfield seemed like a good way to start our programme."

Apart from selecting one of three goalkeepers, he has been left with virtually no other choices to make for Monday's match at Anfield. Webb will not have recovered from Nottingham Forest's game on Sunday, and Bryan Robson and Anderson (if he is fit) are to be saved for Manchester United's fixture against AC Milan on Tuesday.

Lineker will still be attached to Barcelona and the Liverpool trio will be representing their club rather than their country. "All that means that I've got only one midfield player, Reid. Much as I like him, I don't think he can do the job on his own."

Wimbledon ticket torment

By Louise Taylor

Demand for black-market Wimbledon tickets traditionally comes from those seeking a court-side seat at the tennis tournament, but times are changing in SW19 and this year the touts have a new line.

The clamour to watch Wimbledon FC against Liverpool in the FA Cup final on Saturday is such that the club sold out of Wimbledon tickets before it could honour a voucher-system that should have guaranteed a ticket for every supporter who attended each of Wimbledon's last three home games.

However, the scheme went awry when it became apparent that demand was exceeding supply and matters came to a head when dozens of angry and frustrated supporters equipped with the requisite vouchers were turned away from Plough Lane on Monday.

"It's true we have made a mistake," Reg Davies, the club's commercial manager, said yesterday. "But we are a very young club, we don't have a computer and you are always going to upset some people on these occasions."

Davies explained that part

of the problem arose from the fact that season-ticket holders who were already entitled to four tickets each were boosting their allocation by taking advantage of the vouchers.

"We never expected that season-ticket holders would be bothered to get more in this way but that's what happened," Davies said.

Ironically the voucher scheme was introduced because of worries that Wimbledon, whose average home gate is below 8,000, would be unable to sell their Wembley allocation of 25,000.

Liverpool give no Cup clues

By Ian Ross

Kenny Dalglish, the Liverpool manager, yesterday kept secret the fitness of Gary Gillespie and Nigel Spackman, players injured during the League game against Luton Town on Monday.

With the FA Cup final 72 hours away, it is still not clear whether they will recover from head injuries in time to face Wimbledon at Wembley.

Both men spent 12 hours in hospital after receiving stitches for cuts above the eye following an accidental collision of heads and it is unclear whether their wounds will heal before the weekend.

The Liverpool manager did, however, admit that he would be facing one of his most difficult selection problems in the days ahead. "It will not be pleasant picking the team because obviously everyone wants to play," he said. "I must pick the team which I think is right for the club, while bearing in mind the feelings of the players involved."

EEC to study new ruling

Brussels (AFP) — The European Economic Community could take the European football union, UEFA, to court if they go ahead with plans to impose a limit on the number of foreign nationals a club is permitted to select for European competitions.

An EEC spokesman said yesterday that they would examine UEFA's decision, which would effectively deny footballers the right of free movement within the Community, a right which they have, like all workers.

Forward by means of reverse sweep



Not averse to the reverse: Gattin, captain of county and country, perseveres with a stroke that has led to his downfall in the past but which yesterday helped him to a solid 72 for Middlesex against Surrey at the Oval (Photograph: Hugh Routledge)

Clay feats too much for Becker

From Richard Evans
Rome

Jeremy Bates looked stylish while losing 6-3, 6-2 to the Argentinian teenager, Guillermo Perez-Roldan. Boris Becker looked considerably less so, while losing in the first round of the Italian Open to the experienced French clay-court specialist, Thierry Tulasne, 6-4, 7-6.

The centre-court crowd whistled and hooted at Becker as he left the stadium, while out among the pine trees at the back of the Foro Italico, a few hundred spectators greeted Bates' demise by wandering off in search of another ice-cream. Such is the cost of disappointing an Italian crowd.

Becker tried to explain with great patience why clay is such a problem for him: "I have to try and slice my backhand and come in," he said. "I can't hit a moon ball with Tulasne all day, he does that better than me."

It would have been less damaging to his reputation had Becker managed to look less clumsy as he lost the tie-break, hitting a forehand volley yards long on the first point and eventually losing it 7-1.

"Maybe I'll skip Paris and go straight to Wimbledon," he said, but, in fact, he will be searching for some exhibitions next week, and enduring some sessions with his coach, Bob Brett.

There was nothing clumsy about Bates' effort against Perez-Roldan — just an inability to keep his fluent ground strokes in court long enough to put a baseline under pressure.

"Jeremy needs more experience on clay," said his coach, Warren Jacques, who did not need reminding that he was talking about a man who will be 26 next month. It is not Jacques' fault that Bates was making his first appearance at the Italian Open — just a sad commentary on the state of affairs that existed in British tennis before he took over.

After a distracted beginning in front of a volatile gallery, out on court B, Andre Agassi, winner of two grand prix tournaments in the last two weeks, settled down to beat Claudio Pistolesi, of Italy, 4-6, 6-4, 6-2.

Results, page 47

Budd departure makes life easier for BOA

By Louise Taylor

Zola Budd's emotional return to South Africa has enabled the British Olympic Association to breathe a collective sigh of relief.

Dick Palmer, the BOA secretary, said yesterday: "Whether it is in the best interests of Zola Budd only she can decide, but as far as the situation surrounding her is concerned, it certainly removes a potential problem that could have landed on our desk."

David Bedford, the chairman of the International Athletics Club, said: "It's sad, but it takes the heat out of the situation and people faced

with making difficult decisions will be relieved."

Meanwhile SANROC, the London-based anti-apartheid group which has campaigned against Budd since her arrival in England four years ago, welcomed her departure.

"She has been such a nuisance," Sam Ramsamy, the SANROC chairman, said. "But I think we have now seen the back of her; I doubt if she will return here to run. If she had made a strong statement against apartheid and genuinely cut her links with South Africa, we would have accepted her, but she did neither."

Ironically, Budd was last night invited to resurrect her career by the International Amateur Athletic Federation, which was primarily responsible for her premature "retirement" by attempting to ban her from international athletics for 12 months for allegedly taking part in a meeting in South Africa.

John Holt, the secretary of the IAAF, said: "This is not the last of Zola Budd's career as far as we are concerned. At 21 she could have 10 or 12 years ahead of her. Whether that is internationally or in South Africa is another matter."

"If it's internationally, the IAAF would this time lay down conditions so everyone knew where the goalposts were. We haven't stopped her running, we have just tried to apply the rules."

Budd's departure came in the week she was due to speak to the British Amateur Athletic Board's committee of inquiry set up to consider the IAAF ban, but now the committee has been suspended, and a BAAB spokesman said: "It's difficult to see how any decision can be reached without Zola's presence. The authorities must make sure this sort of thing never happens again."

She paid tribute to the British Amateur Athletic Board for its backing, and added: "I must thank all the other people who have supported me."

No immediate decision

Bloemfontein (Reuters) — Zola Budd returned to her childhood home town yesterday, saying she would put off a decision about her athletics future for at least a year.

"I feel angry and bitter... I am angry at the fact that I am seen as a representative of South Africa and its problems," she said.

Asked about her immediate plans, she said: "I want to go on a long, long holiday... after a year I will decide what I am going to do."

"I suppose they [the anti-apartheid lobby] will exploit

this as they have done with other things in the past. But I think I deserve a rest to recover and re-evaluate and decide about my future."

Talking about the meetings in South Africa last year which have sparked the latest controversy, Budd said: "In hindsight it would have been better to have avoided it."

She paid tribute to the British Amateur Athletic Board for its backing, and added: "I must thank all the other people who have supported me."

Transvaal seeks ultimatum

By David Hands, Rugby Correspondent

With an acute sense of timing which has not always been a South African forte, the Transvaal Rugby Union announced yesterday — the day that three of the four home unions dispatched touring parties to various other parts of the globe — that it is to press for an emergency meeting of the International Rugby Football Board (IRFB) to discuss the proposed World XV to visit the Republic in August.

Transvaal met on Monday evening and decided to send a delegation to the South African Rugby Board (SARB) in the hope of forcing it to issue an ultimatum to the IRFB: that either there should be full backing for the World XV or Transvaal will head a break-away movement to launch professional Rugby Union in

South Africa. The motion reflects South African disappointment that four of the member unions of the IRFB (Wales, Scotland, Ireland and New Zealand) declined to allow players to join the World XV.

"If the World XV tour falls through, professional rugby could start here very soon," Louis Luyt, president of the Transvaal union, said.

When the South Seas Barbarians toured last year, the IRFB suspended all tours to South Africa, a suspension which was lifted at its annual meeting in March.

Luyt added that Transvaal was prepared to wait until August to see what standard the World XV comprised, but clearly expects it to be a second-rate party. At the mo-

ment, it is likely to be composed primarily of Australian and French players.

However, Bill Hayden, the Australian Foreign Minister, emphasized his government's opposition to any Wallabies playing in South Africa with the release of a report compiled by the Australian Embassy in Pretoria detailing substantial impediments to the normalization of sport in the Republic.

The view of the IRFB, as expressed by Keith Rowland, who takes over as secretary at the end of this month, is that the board has always dealt as diplomatically as possible with South Africa. "Each member union has the freedom to make up its own mind within the parameters laid down by the board," he added.

Touring party will arrive short-handed

The England Rugby Union party will need a count of heads when they arrive in Australia tomorrow, just to check who is with them (David Hands writes). The party flew from Heathrow yesterday without four members, two of whom are already in Australia and two of whom will catch up this weekend.

The latter pair are Halliday, the Bath centre, and Evans, the uncapped Leicester wing, who joined the squad only yesterday.

Evans, aged 25, takes the place that would have gone to Bailey, of Wasps, who strained his groin playing in the Cambridge sevens.

His misfortune represents a splendid opportunity for Evans, who joins his club colleague, Underwood, on tour. Rendall, of Wasps, will also tour after passing a fitness test.

END COLUMN

Politics force Amritraj to quit

By Richard Evans

The Davis Cup careers of Vijay Amritraj and Anand, his brother, are over. Politics, rather than any failing powers with the racket, have effectively terminated a 21-year span of Amritraj's service to India's cause.

As a result of the Indian government's refusal to allow India to play a relegation play-off tie against Israel in Tel Aviv earlier this month, the Davis Cup management committee has banned India from the competition in 1989 and placed it in the Asian zone group B in the following year.

"Even if we had lost to Israel we would only have gone down to group A," Vijay said.

As captain of a team that reached the final of the Davis Cup last year, he has written a letter of protest to Philippe Chatrier, the ITF president. "Now we will have to start from the very bottom and it will be 1991 before we have any hope of getting back into the world group. That will be too late for me. I've played my last match in the Davis Cup."

Even if sportsmen having to pay for the sins of politicians is an old story, this particular case is fraught with irony. It was as a result of Vijay's personal influence with Prime Minister Gandhi that Israel were allowed to visit New Delhi for a world group tie in 1987.

Because India supports the PLO, there are not diplomatic relations between the two countries and it was only through Amritraj's intervention that sport was able to break down a political barrier.

Vijay received death threats on the telephone in his hotel on an almost daily basis for a week before the tie, but, thanks to security, even the Israelis got out alive.

This year Vijay asked the ITF for a postponement of the relegation tie "because of political unrest". The request could hardly have been more reasonable as there was no rush to play. Last year's relegation matches were played in July rather than April. But it was refused.

Chatrier, who is well aware of the distress the Davis Cup ruling will cause to Indian tennis so soon after the heavy triumphs of 1987, when they were beaten in the final by Sweden, has promised to look into the case.

"Of course, I will consider Vijay's plea not to be sent down to group B," Chatrier said. "Vijay deserves every consideration after all he has contributed to the game. But, you know, these rules are made because we try to stop politics intruding into sport. If we listen to everybody's arguments we would never get any ties played at all."

Noble as it may be to try to keep tennis above politics, it is also wholly impracticable. In the real world a global competition like the Davis Cup is always going to be beset by political complexities that the ITF is not qualified to judge. Is it safe for Iraq to play in Egypt? Should Cuba be allowed to travel to Jamaica?

Every year poses new questions, and the best way for the ITF to solve the problem would be to appoint an independent political expert — a professor at Oxford or Harvard for instance — who could assess the situation dispassionately, purely on the grounds of the political realities of the moment.

Apart from getting the ITF off the hook it would also enable it to avoid the necessity of penalizing blameless athletes.

In an age of violence and bad behaviour it is a little too much to believe that a team with India's reputation for sportsmanship which shone like a beacon throughout last year's Davis Cup competition, should now be banned for reasons entirely beyond its control.

Ryder tour

The Ryder Cup will be the focal point of an exhibition of historic and contemporary golf presented by the Johnny Walker whisky company at six European tournaments, beginning with next week's Italian Open at Monticello.

Paris match

Fulham have arranged to play Racing Club de Paris in a friendly at Craven Cottage on August 3.

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